

OUR 118TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

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Issue No. 13 30 pages plus 12-page section

NOVEMBER 24, 2005

75 CENTS

7th heaven for girls swim team



Courtney Petzold (left) and Jackie Booth of Andover cheer on their teammates during the MIAA Girls' State Swimming and Diving Championship at Harvard University Blodgett Pool in Cambridge. The team won its seventh straight state title.

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

They are leaving one heck of a wake. The AHS girls swim and dive team, once again led by Caitlin Doherty, Candice Peak, Ellen Cody, Tiffany Petzold and Kristi Korsberg, stretched its state title streak to seven straight when it topped the field at Harvard University's Blodgett Pool on Sunday evening.

The team triumph completed another

perfect season for the Lady Warriors who swept to Merrimack Valley Conference dual meet and championship meet titles, a seventh consecutive North Sectional crown and the state championship.

Despite the swimmers' success, Andover High girls varsity sports teams batted .500 in their quests for Massachusetts State Division 1 championships last weekend.

In its first-ever state final appearance on

Saturday night at Hudson High, the AHS girls volleyball team fell victim to powerhouse similar to Andover swimming, Barnstable High, which captured its ninth title in the last 12 years.

Prior to that defeat, the team captured its first-ever Division 1 North championship with a 3-0 sweep of undefeated Lincoln-Sudbury in the state semifinals.

— Rick Harrison

3 hurt in stabbings downtown Tuesday

By Rita Savard

Three bodies wrapped in white sheets were carried out of a Post Office Avenue apartment building on stretchers allegedly after a domestic dispute led to stabbings Tuesday morning.

Andover Police Chief Brian Pattullo said a man, described as a suspect in custody, was among the three people rushed to area hospitals by medics around 9:45 a.m. He said blood was found throughout the second-floor apartment's rooms.

One female and two males were still alive, according to police's knowledge before noon on Tuesday, Pattullo said. One of the victims was a resident at the apartment at 20 Post Office Ave., between Main and Elm streets, police said. Police declined to reveal the names and ages of the people involved while the crime

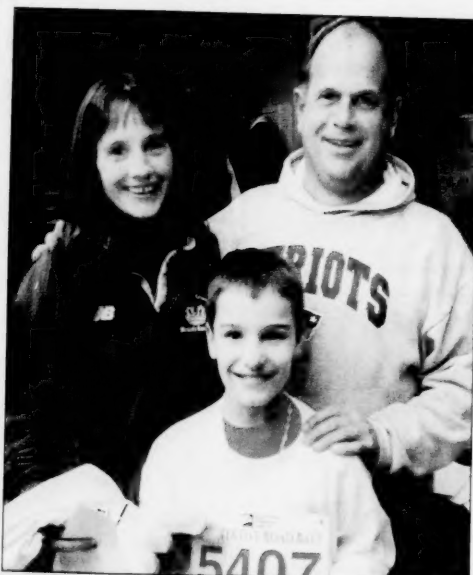
scene was still being investigated. When the state police crime unit arrived shortly before 11 a.m., Pattullo confirmed a stabbing did take place at the two-story brick apartment complex and said a possible domestic dispute was being investigated as the cause.

Ambulances and flashing lights wailed down North Main Street around 9:40 a.m., and surrounded Elm Street and 20 Post Office Ave., at the end of the square. Onlookers crowded in the rain to watch police and medics tend to the victims. Police completely sealed off all entry points to the avenue for more than an hour to investigate the crime scene.

"We heard all the commotion when the ambulances came," said Patricia O'Connell of North Andover, who was getting a man-

Continued on page 6

FEASTER THREE



Mike Fortunato, 13, and his parents Joanne and Dan Fortunato will run their 10th Feaster Five Road Race this Thanksgiving morning. For more on running the 18th annual Andover race, a tradition for many, see page 2.

YOUTH CENTER AREA

Residents worry about landfill study

Town consultant: Site is safe

By Rita Savard

Saying they are concerned that toxins could be leaching from the town's Ledge Road landfill onto the site of playing fields and a proposed youth center, abutters are demanding answers from town officials.

But town officials maintain that ongoing testing over the years shows no known health risks in the area. The town plans to recap the landfill under the existing Deyermund Fields, and plans to cap additional land to create more fields. Residents also have approved a plan that would allow a youth center to be built on the site.

"We just want to know what is in the ground here, especially

if the town is thinking about placing a facility for kids on top of it," said Tom Brady, of 5 Pettingill Road.

Brady and 13 of his neighbors petitioned the state Department of Environmental Protection for a Public Involvement Plan in September. This requires that parties responsible for site cleanup act to better involve the public in the decision-making process. Since soil and water samples were taken by licensed site professionals in August, residents claim that no one has made the results public.

Residents surrounding the landfill want to see evidence that backs up officials' claims

Continued on page 2

Class dismissed — by Old Man Winter

Town wants DCS classes postponed until end of February to save heat

By Greta Cuyler

There will be a lot less craft-making in Andover this January.

Town officials are asking the Department of Community Services to help control utility costs by delaying the start of most of its winter programs, which serve hundreds of town residents. There are about 30 classes — from picture framing to meditation courses — due to start at the end of January that will be postponed until at least the end of February.

"Last time we (postponed class start dates), we saw a big drop in revenue," said Mary Donohue, director of DCS. She attributes the heavy January enrollment numbers to people anxious to begin implementing New Year's resolutions.

Donohue said she has agreed to the proposal with one exception: DCS wants to offer six fitness programs at the end of January, to capture some of those who resolve to get fit.

The town is also asking DCS not to hold any vacation programs at local schools this winter and for DCS' night classes to begin and end 30 minutes

earlier, so schools can close earlier each night.

"They've asked us to consolidate our programs and to consolidate our times," said Donohue.

Her staff is considering ways to still offer school-vacation programs outside of schools. One potential option would involve busing students to a fitness center outside of town,

although the price for the program would be higher to reflect the busing cost.

"We plan to come up with something to accommodate people," said Donohue.

DCS programs bring in \$325,000 in profit to the town, said Donohue, reflecting an average revenue of \$450,000 offset by \$125,000 of overhead costs. Nearly 13,000 people sign up for classes through DCS each year.

"We're hoping that the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen will recognize that because we're doing fewer programs, our revenues will decrease," said Donohue.

DCS has also been asked to

Continued on page 4

Index

Arts & Entertainment	7
Classified/Real Estate	20
Crossword	8
Editorial	11
Education	16
Letters	11
Obituaries	12
Sports	13
Townpeople	19

Tax burden shifts: page 6

Section: Holiday Gift Guide, with focus on Andover's holiday events



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MIND GAMES

Educational program of Fred Fitzgerald keeps kids engaged

Page 16

Town, engineer say landfill site OK

■ YOUTH CENTER LAND

Continued from page 1

there is nothing wrong.

When Brady moved to the area in 1987, he didn't know there was a landfill — previously a state Superfund site — in the area until discovering some discolored water in his backyard.

"Behind our house there is a creek that runs off the landfill," said Brady. "It always ran a bright orange, like a rust color."

After raising the issue with former town Conservation Director Jim Greer, Brady said Greer told him "nothing was wrong."

Stephen Tisbert, of 6 Pettingill Road, also noticed the unusual "rust-colored" water in the brook and knows that some people believe it has led to illness.

"There is no way to prove that claim but it makes you wonder given the history of the land," Tisbert said. "I think the youth center is something the town needs to have but I disagree with where it's going."

After high levels of arsenic — a naturally occurring element — were found in brook water near the landfill earlier this year, Brady became concerned once again.

Camp Dresser & McKee, the firm hired by the town to cap the landfill, took extensive water and soil samples over the sum-

mer, said Brady. "Following their investigation in August, a CDM employee did call me to express concern that no kids or pets be exposed to the (brook) water," he claimed.

CDM did not return a reporter's phone call before *Townsmen* press time. But CDM project supervisor Bruce Haskell did conclude in a summary presented to selectmen Monday night that "the fields in the downstream areas and the (landfill) site is safe for continued public use."

Arsenic

Town Health Director Everett Penney said levels of arsenic in the drinking water are well below state health standards of 50 micrograms or less of arsenic per liter. Samples of Fish Brook water — not drinking water — taken at locations near the landfill showed levels higher than this at two locations. He has said he is more concerned about the levels of sodium in the water than arsenic.

In January, the state will adopt the federal government's more stringent 10 micrograms-per-liter arsenic standard. Historically, water tested in several areas around the landfill have shown concentrations of arsenic above this level.

Although the small brook behind his Pet-

tingill Road home is not technically considered Fish Brook, Brady said it still connects to Fish Brook which feeds into the town's water supply.

"It's all going into the water we drink," Brady said. "We need to start looking into this now or face the possibility of more serious consequences down the line."

Town: Testing shows no health risk

The CDM report presented to selectmen Monday also states that there is no impact in the surface water downstream of the landfill that drains towards the town's drinking water supply.

According to Public Works Director Jack Petkus, ongoing testing of soil, water and air prove there are no health risks.

"Everything looks clean," Petkus said. "We've done numerous samples over there including air quality tests every six months on top of Deymond Fields. When you've got kids playing up there you want to make sure it's safe. We're looking for all the things you'd find hazardous and we have not seen anything."

On Monday, Penney said the Board of Health would make sure that if anything is built on or adjacent to the landfill it would be built with precautions. "Three years ago, when money was committed to a youth center and design plans were starting to be reviewed, the Board of Health made a point to address concerns about the migration of methane gas typically produced by old landfills underground," Penney said.

If a facility is built nearby, Penney said the Board of Health would recommend the installation of a system to continually monitor the air quality.

Brady said he and other abutters just want a comprehensive plan to understand and monitor the landfill, containing documentation that supports officials' findings and conclusions.

"We can't deny that this was a landfill, a landfill where industrial waste from companies like Reichold Chemical, Converse, Tyer Rubber and Dow was dumped for many years," Brady said. "I'm not looking to place blame on anybody, but this is a town landfill and the town needs to take responsibility."

FEASTER FIVE

Register Turkey Day morn



Ellie Lang (left), 8, will run the 5-kilometer race and her brother Sean, 6, will run the Kids' 1K at the 18th Feaster Five. Runners picked up their numbers, shirts and timing chip at the Guesthouse International Inn & Suites in Methuen this week.

Here is some basic information about the 18th annual Feaster Five Road Race, including how to sign up:

DATE: Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 24

DISTANCES: Kids' 1K, 5-mile and 5K races/walks

LOCATION: Brickstone Square, Main Street, Andover (Intersection of Routes 133 and 28)

TIME: Kids' 1K 8:00 a.m.
5K run/walk 8:30 a.m.
5-mile run/walk 8:30 a.m.

ENTRY FEE: At this point, it costs \$25. Kids' 1K is \$5. Make check payable to "DMSE/Feaster." NOTE: Race day entries will be accepted today, Thanksgiving Day. Electronic entries may be made by visiting www.feasterfive.com.

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• Pre-race entertainment program

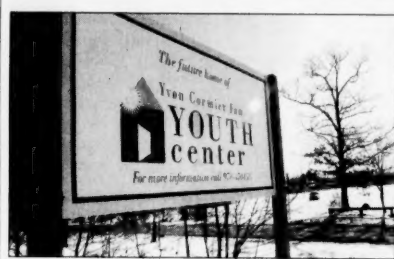
SANCTIONING: Provided by Road Runners Club of America

REGISTRATION: Guesthouse Inn and Suites, Methuen, Wednesday, Nov. 23, noon-6 p.m. Directions to Guesthouse Inn and Suites: North or South take I-93 to Exit 47, Pelham Street. From points east or west, take Route 495 to I-93 North to exit 47, Pelham Street. Guesthouse International Inn & Suites is at the base of the exit.

AWARDS: Top three in each age division in both the 5K and 5-mile
Continued on page 6

YOUTH CENTER'S FUTURE

The safety discussion surrounding the landfill remains at the center of an "uphill battle" to construct a facility for Andover's youth, says Bill Fahey, director of Youth Services. "I think it's very important that the town look at any and all issues before building a center out there," said Fahey. "It's hard for us to gain momentum and convince citizens (the proposed site) is the best place for a community campus if the site has a big cloud hanging over it."



Longtime town engineering consultant Camp, Dresser & McKee says the Ledge Road landfill area, where playing fields exist and a youth center could be built, is "safe."

Fahey also questioned whether residents would support spending more than \$7 million to cap and recap the land. "It's an awful lot of money," he said. "If there are any issues at all, we need to look at them now before we move forward."

FILE PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

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to be thankful this holiday season!

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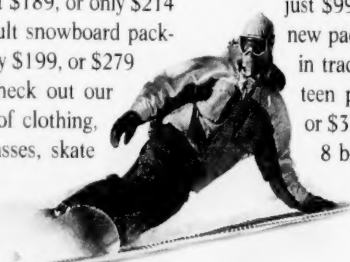
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Andover Townsman

Established 1887

ISSN 1524-1432
USPS 025-440

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Published Thursdays by Andover Publishing Co.
33 Chestnut St., Box 1986, Andover, MA 01810
978-475-7000 Ad fax 978-475-5731 News fax 978-470-2819
E-mail townsman@andovertownsman.com
Web www.andovertownsman.com

Periodical postage paid at Andover, MA, and additional mailing office.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Andover Townsman,
33 Chestnut St., Andover, MA 01810
In-town subscription — One year, \$40; two years, \$68
Subscription outside Greater Lawrence — One year, \$45; two years, \$75
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Camera-ready advertising copy is due by Tuesday at noon.
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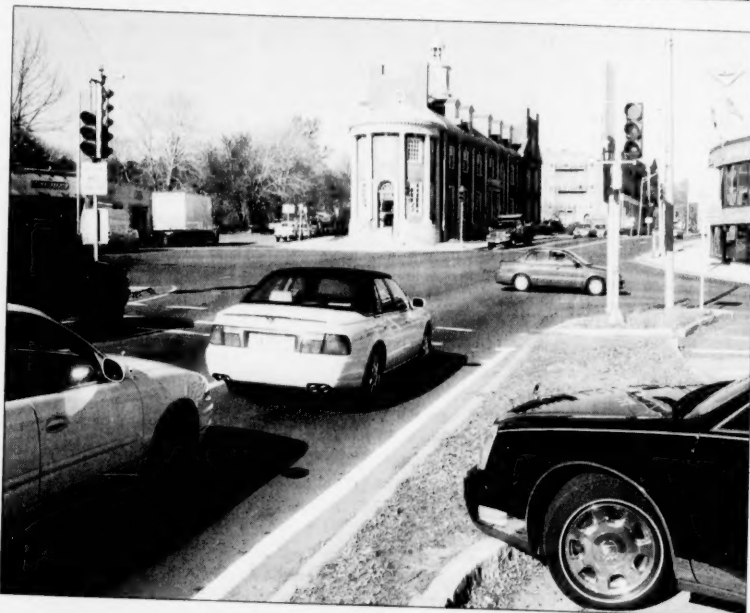
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IN BRIEF

PAST AND PRESENT



Top photo: Shawsheen Square, the intersection of Route 133 and North Main Street (Route 28), was paved over with hot top from 1949 to 1950.
Bottom photo: The same area nowadays has more lights, buildings and traffic.

Getting there on Thanksgiving Day

The Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority has released the following schedule to be in effect today, Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 24:

- No local bus service;
- No EZTrans Service;
- No call and commute service;
- No Ring and Ride Service in Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Groveland, Methuen, Salisbury, and West Newbury;
- No MVRTA Boston commuter bus; and
- Commuter rail will operate on a Sunday schedule.

Increased patrols

Andover is one of 270 Massachusetts local police departments joining the State Police to conduct a Click It or Ticket mobilization until Nov. 27, with special emphasis on the Thanksgiving holiday period.

Last year during the four-day Thanksgiving holiday period in Massachusetts there were eight motor-vehicle-related fatalities.

"We will have extra patrols to focus on all traffic law violations during this mobilization, but will place special emphasis on increasing compliance with the Massachusetts safety belt and child passenger safety laws to keep people safer," said Andover Chief Brian Pattullo in a release.

Medicare Part D talk

SHINE – the division of the Elder Services of Merrimack Valley that provides health care information to seniors – will present a 30- to 45-minute program explaining Medicare Part D at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish on Sunday, Nov. 27 after the 11 a.m. Mass, around 12:15 in Driscoll Hall beneath the church. The parish asks people to call 978-683-8922 to RSVP.

The change to Medicare starts Jan. 1, and will offer most people eligible for Medicare an opportunity to save on the cost of prescription drugs.

The Nov. 27 program will address specific situations, how to select a plan and factors to consider when enrolling in the Part D. Any materials or information received from an individual's retirement health plan may be brought for evaluation and discussion. A question-and-answer segment will follow the program.

Correction

The Nov. 17 article "Swimming 70-somethings..." incorrectly reported when the author of the book *A Day in the Life of the American Woman* will be coming to town. Author Carol Saline will be at the senior center on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 2 p.m.

Quote, unquote . . .

GOING FROM MAKING EVERYONE LOOK BAD to making sure models at a bridal show looked beautiful was a good experience.
– Andover resident Pooman Ray, on being the makeup artist for a gritty movie and at a bridal show. (Story in Arts, page 7)

THE REAL REASON I'M HERE IS TO ASK to bring the troops home and to have peace and love and truth, something that our country has been lacking.
– Kate Lundquist, 17, an Andover High School student who organized an anti-Iraq War demonstration and 20-minute walkout as part of "National Stand Down Day" on Nov. 18. (Story, page 4)

News Calendar

Monday, Nov. 28

Cultural Council, Town Offices, second-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 30

American Coalition for Education, School Administration Building, conference room A, second floor, Central Office, 7:30 a.m.

Sanborn Elementary School Improvement Council, Sanborn Media Center, 8 a.m.

Thursday, Dec. 1

Greater Lawrence Coalition on Bioterrorism, Town Offices, third-floor conference room, 10 a.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals, Memorial Hall Library, the Hall, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 3

Zoning Board of Appeals, Memorial Hall Library, the Hall, 9 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 5

Finance Committee Town Offices, third-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 7

Ballardvale Historic District Commission Town Offices, second-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 12

Housing Partnership Committee, Town Offices, second-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Mailing packages overseas for holidays

With thousands of American troops and civilians stationed around the world, the coming weeks will be a busy time for mailing international and military parcels and packages. Below are the major dates recommended to mail items by, if they are to be delivered by Dec. 25.

- Dec. 5 – First-Class cards and letters or Priority Mail to military APO AE ZIPs 093 addresses
- Dec. 10 – First-Class cards and letters or Priority Mail to all other military APO/FPO addresses
- Dec. 5 – Global Airmail letters, cards and Parcel Post to Africa and Central or South America

International Mail locations
• Dec. 12 – Global Airmail letters, cards and Parcel Post to other International Mail locations.
• Dec. 19 – Global Express Guaranteed International Mail (except Canada, Dec. 20)

"We hope the publication of these dates will prove beneficial to persons mailing cards and gifts to foreign countries so they will arrive in a timely manner," said Daniel F. Moynihan, officer-in-charge of Andover Post Office.

Parcel Post packages going to military APO/FPO addresses should have been mailed already. For more info, visit the Web site www.usps.com.

Study looks at Andover for 'smart growth' solutions

By Greta Cuyler

Large Andover homes in quiet cul-de-sacs may set tongues a-wagging, but the older, smaller properties in the center of town are more desirable by at least one statistical measure.

Since 2000, it has cost \$210 per square foot to buy a downtown Andover property, compared to \$193 per square foot to live further outside of town. Houses are larger outside of the downtown area, with an average selling price of \$535,000 compared with \$415,000 downtown.

That's some of the information in a Massachusetts Housing Partnership study out this fall. The state organization cites Andover as a model for how towns should grow

in a September 2005 study, "Open Space, Housing Construction and Home Prices: What's the Payoff from Smart Growth?"

Housing units outside of the center of town take up 2.5 times as much land as those in the center of town, the study says. Building differently would allow for better grouping of open space, it argues.

"Well laid out, denser neighborhoods built at 3 or 4 units to the acre can create just as much value (and generate just as much – if not more – in the way of property tax values) as larger lot developments – and can do so using far less open space," wrote Edward Moscovitch, president of Cape Ann Economics, in the report.

Using Andover and Ipswich as

examples, the report suggests that towns should build new town centers around commercial and industrial areas. Instead of building residential units that can occupy up to an acre or more, Moscovitch's research also suggests building single-family homes on one-third of an acre. A mix of condominiums, townhouses and apartments can be built so that there is a unit for every quarter-acre. There is an average of 1.08 acres per unit along the Routes 128 and 495 corridor, but using the above example, one could fit 4.3 times as many homes in the same amount of space, while also increasing the town's tax base, the study says. Such cluster housing could allow for more open space.

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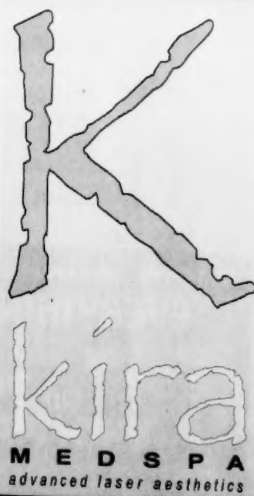
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Winter classes dismissed

WINTER CLASSES

Continued from page 1

consolidate programs to run in only three schools, instead of all of the Andover schools. Programs will now be run at Andover High School, Doherty Middle School, and the attached Wood Hill Middle and High Plain Elementary buildings.

DCS was founded in 1971 and offers year-round classes to residents. The fall 2005 catalog lists more than 100 classes for both children and adults. Offerings range from conversational Chinese to gymnastics to ballroom dancing.

Andover has always used local schools as its community center, said Donohue. She says DCS is the town's "people infrastructure," helping people to connect through involvement in classes and other programs.

"We'd like for them to acknowledge our value and that we're part of the family," said Donohue.

Joe Piantedosi, the town's director of plan and facilities, said the goals is to consolidate programs and minimize the number of classes during vacations.

"We're trying to do a balance between energy savings and revenue that DCS takes in," said Piantedosi.

The last projection, taken in October, showed the town's

energy deficit running at \$579,000 for the current fiscal year, said Piantedosi. He is the chairman of a townwide energy task force.

He says several energy-saving measures have already been implemented, including turning off school exterior lights after schools are empty, turning off municipal parking lot lights at 11 p.m., reducing the number of

hours a day municipal buildings are heated and asking employees to turn off computers if they are going to be away from their desks for longer than two hours.

"There are a lot of great ideas and suggestions coming from custodians and maintenance people, small things that they see every day that can make a huge difference collectively," said Piantedosi.

Sweaters are in Town turns down school thermostat

Kids are dressing warmer for school this year.

At least that's what Andover school principals are telling Joe Piantedosi, the town's director of plan and facilities, Piantedosi says.

Piantedosi's staff and school custodians are working closely to monitor school temperatures, and in some cases, turning the heat off in schools as early as 2 p.m.

"The goal is to save money, but not at the expense of freezing kids," said Piantedosi.

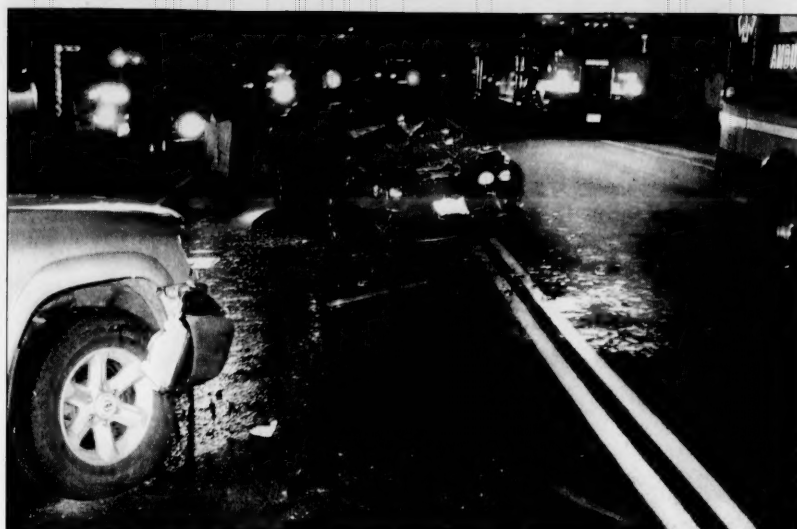
School Committee member Art Barber said that today's concern over energy

costs reminds him of the energy crisis of the 1970s. He said there are simple things kids can do, like wearing wool socks instead of cotton and walking up Andover High School stairs instead of using the elevator.

Barber said he has not heard many complaints from parents about energy cutbacks in schools, and he attributes that to people grappling with energy issues in their own homes.

However, Barber does concede that at the last School Committee meeting, "it was really cold in that room."

—Greta Cuyler



A woman on the way to a surprise baby shower was killed on South Main Street last week.

Separate tragedies claim mother-to-be, baby; resident

A pregnant Salem, N.H., woman and the baby girl she was due to deliver this week were fatally injured when her car collided head-on with a sports utility vehicle pulling out from a day-care center onto Route 28 in Andover last Thursday night. The next night, a 62-year-old man who lived in a group home on North Street was stuck by two cars while crossing the road.

Krista Raymond, 22, of 27 Norwood Road, was on her way to a surprise baby shower when her accident occurred, her aunt said.

Raymond was airlifted to Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, where she and the baby later died, said Stephen F. O'Connell, spokesman for the Essex County District Attorney's Office.

Doctors delivered the baby and tried to save her, but without

success, said Raymond's fiancé, George Demers Jr.

"They tried to massage her heart and keep her alive," said Demers, who held the baby at the hospital last night.

Susan McNamara, 39, of 135 Orchard Hill Road, Bradford, and three children in the Nissan Pathfinder that hit Raymond's Dodge Acura were all wearing seatbelts and suffered only minor injuries, Andover Lt. James D. Hashem said. They were taken to Lawrence General Hospital for treatment.

Police said it appeared Raymond was wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash. Police said a passenger in Raymond's car, whom they would not identify, suffered minor injuries.

Police said Raymond was driving southbound on Route 28 at 6:10 p.m. when her car collided with the Pathfinder turning north

from the driveway of Children's World Learning Centers. The day-care center is at 511 S. Main St. (Route 28), near Route 125 and the North Reading line.

Raymond's aunt, Tina Raymond of Lawrence, said her niece was to deliver the day after Thanksgiving.

Raymond worked at the Bright Horizons Day Care Center in North Reading, where fellow employees were set to fete her at the shower last night, her aunt said.

Before she headed off to work at the child-care center, Raymond quietly confided in her fiancée that she thought a scheduled staff meeting was actually a ruse to throw her a surprise baby shower.

"She was so excited," said Demers, a machinist. She lived with him and his family in Salem. "She thought it was a surprise, but she didn't want to let anyone else know that she knew."

In a separate incident on Friday night, Gerald Lawson, a resident at the Brook House, a state-run group home at 131 North St., was pronounced dead at Lawrence General Hospital just before 11:30 p.m. Andover firefighters' had attempted to resuscitate Lawson at the scene, police Sgt. Harry Collins said.

The incident happened at 10:25 p.m. As of Sunday, police had not released the names of the two drivers, who struck the man while they were traveling in opposite directions.

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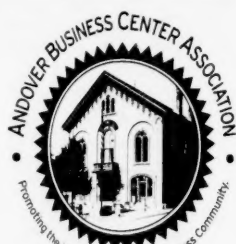
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Kate Lundquist, Andover High School student, speaks to students who walked out of class for 20 minutes, with permission, as part of National Stand Down Day. During the day, 200 students signed a petition calling for an end to the Iraq War.

Students protest Iraq War

200 of 1,800 at high school sign petition; some walk out

By Rita Savard

Teens held signs and sang John Lennon songs on Friday after walking out of classes to protest American involvement in the Iraq war.

Organized by senior Kate Lundquist, 17, the anti-war demonstration was part of "National Stand Down Day" on Nov. 18, when students in high schools throughout the country staged similar walk-outs as an attempt to send messages to military recruiters: "Stay out of our schools" and "Stop the War."

From 10:15 to 10:35 a.m., about 70 students converged on the school's courtyard and were joined by teachers and members of the local anti-war group People for Peace. All students who walked out of classes had to have permission from teachers first, Lundquist said.

"The war is pointless," Lundquist told her peers who had joined hands in a circle outside the school. "The killing, death and inhumanity the USA has conducted has brought shame, rage, sadness, despair and frustration to myself and

people like yourselves who are not blind to the war."

Since the war began in 2003, 2,083 U.S. soldiers have been killed along with 26,982 Iraqi civilians, Lundquist told the crowd. She asked students to question why the killing must go on.

"The first reason President Bush gave to invade Iraq was that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction. But in reality the CIA found no weapons of mass destruction," Lundquist said. "The second reason was that Saddam helped and was involved with Al Qaeda in plotting 9/11, when in reality the former state department intelligence chief confirmed it was a false allegation."

While Lundquist was joined by fewer than 60 of her peers outside the school, about 200 students lined up in the lobby earlier in the day to sign a petition the senior is planning to forward to President Bush at the White House.

Veterans' Services Director John Doherty said he had never heard of National Stand Down Day, but did say the phrase

"Stand Down" is a military term commonly associated with the Vietnam War.

"It's a cessation of combat," Doherty said. "It's usually used when a military unit is being relieved from its duties in the field."

Doherty said he did not receive any complaints about the demonstration at his office but did question the decision to allow students to miss 20 minutes of class time.

"I try to teach my kids that if they believe in a cause to have the courage to speak out about it," said Sherry Lundquist, Kate's mother. Three years earlier, Lundquist's older brother, Jesse, also organized a student protest against the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS).

"I can go on with the lies and secrets of the Bush Administration, but the real reason I'm here is to ask to bring the troops home and to have peace and love and truth, something that our country has been lacking," said Kate Lundquist on Friday.

At the end of the ceremony, she asked students to have a moment of silence for all the soldiers and civilians whose lives were lost in the war.

"Nothing good ever comes from violence," said Lundquist, quoting Martin Luther King Jr. "We are all equal and must fight together for peace."

Dim cash outlook for downtown holiday lights

New lights to stay in Main Street trees for future years

By Greta Cuyler

Just six trees on Main Street might be twinkling with holiday lights this year – instead of the usual 18 – unless Town Manager Buzz Stapczynski can raise an additional \$12,000 needed to pay for the project.

So far Stapczynski has only raised a third of the \$18,000 needed. The goal is to have Main Street's tree lighting done by Dec. 2. Also, Andover plans to pay to install the lights in such a way that they can remain in the trees, so that someone will not have to pay to string the lights again next winter.

More than a month ago, selectmen challenged Rhode Island-based CVS/Pharmacy to step up and donate funds to the program, but CVS has not yet responded, said the town manager this week. "I think it's high time they step up to the plate and I'll challenge them tonight," said Selectman Mary Lyman at the board's meeting on Oct. 17.

Lyman says many local businesses give generously, but some merchants are feeling the financial strain of supporting the program year after year.

A CVS spokesman told the *Townsmen* in October that local CVS management was looking into Andover's holiday lighting program and that local CVS managers have access to discretionary funds for local operations. CVS did not return a call this week by *Townsmen* deadline.

There is no town money for the holiday lights on Main Street and Stapczynski is spearheading the fund-raising effort for the third year in a row by mailing about 50 solicitation letters to local landlords and businesses. The letters were mailed out about 10 days ago and the money is trickling

in. The cost for wrapping and lighting 17 to 18 trees along Main Street is approximately \$1,000 per tree, said Stapczynski.

Andover chose a new company, Downtown Decorations, to decorate Andover's Main Street this year. The Syracuse, N.Y.-based company has done a lot of work in the area, including holiday decorations for the cities of Lowell, Hyannis, Providence, R.I. and Nashua, N.H.

"When they showed me photos of what they've done in Lowell and other places, I thought it looked really good," said Stapczynski.

There is an intricate process involved in putting on tree lights able to withstand strong winds and snow. The difference this year will be that a new company hired for the work will use larger, sturdier, commercial grade bulbs on the trees and the trees will stay decorated year round. That means that Andover could light Main Street during special occasions throughout the year, not just during the winter holidays.

The trees will be wrapped with clear, white lights and the bulbs will last longer, meaning minimum maintenance, said Ted Peterson, president of Downtown Decorations. Andover will not have to keep redoing the trees year after year, he said.

Peterson said Andover could spend future donations to add to its holiday decorations, including decorations on buildings and poles along Main Street. Peterson has been in the holiday decoration business for more than 10 years. In the 1980s and 1990s, people flocked to the malls, he said, but are now rediscovering downtown areas.

**Santa Parade
this Sunday,
Nov. 27**
Page 8A

Gulls return – to everywhere but former Nabydoski farm

By Rita Savard

After having flown the coop for nearly nine months, a flock of seagulls returned to the Blanchard Road area last week, ruffling the nerves of some residents.

Neighbors of former Andover cattle farmer Richard Nabydoski contacted the Board of Health last week after noticing the scavenger birds were back. Town Health Director Everett Penney went out to investigate the complaints and noticed a change compared to last year's Hitchcockian landscape.

"There were hundreds of seagulls on the roofs of the neighboring developments at Devonshire Place and Lenox Circle, but not a one on Nabydoski's property," Penney said.

Last fall, residents of Lenox Circle and Devonshire Place complained for months to town health officials about seagulls roosting on their roofs and defecating on their homes, saying Nabydoski's cattle feed was luring them.

Following visits to Nabydoski's property and after finding high levels of coliform bacteria in water samples extracted from the brook cutting through it, a court order reinforced the Board of Health's decision to shut down the farm. The farmer also has been accruing a \$1,000-a-day fine since Sept. 9, 2004. Nabydoski sold the last of his beef cattle in February and shortly afterward the seagulls disappeared.

Town Health Director Everett Penney did warn residents in the spring that the seagulls might return during the winter as the birds tend to follow their usual migratory patterns.

Nabydoski also placed a call into Penney's office when he spotted some seagulls soaring through the neighborhood last week.

"I suspect they came back looking for food," said Penney, who walked the grounds of Nabydoski's farm to make sure

there was nothing on the property attracting the birds. Now that his cows are gone, Nabydoski's pet animals include two cats and possibly a dog, said Penney, adding that the 76 Blanchard Road property was free of any food or debris.

The flock seemed to thin out as the week progressed, said Penney, noting that he saw no seagulls in the area at all on Monday.

"If the birds are back for the winter and there are no animals on the farm then the problem belongs to the people who have the birds in their yards," Penney said. "We will have to keep watching to see if the birds intend to stay."

Ongoing water samples of the brook on Nabydoski's property continue to show E-coli counts below the state's acceptable levels.

Although the court-ordered fine continues, Penney said there is no violation at this point.



Kate Lundquist (front left), Andover High School student, joined about 50 other students to form a circle as they sang songs and called for peace.

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3 involved in stabbings

STABBINGS

Continued from page 1

icure at Raini Nails next door. "I looked out the back door and saw the yellow tapes go up and I knew something bad had happened."

Workers at several other area businesses said they heard nothing unusual until the police cars and ambulances started arriving at the scene.

While police combed the area around the tenement building for clues, a man holding an umbrella came out of the apartments and crossed over the police barricade.

"That's my friend in there," he

said in a shaken voice. "I don't want to comment. I don't want her information in the paper. This is awful."

Police officers standing guard at the front entry to the building as well as the back entrances accessible from Park Street did not answer any questions. No one was allowed to walk near the apartments.

Limited information was available as, due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the *Townsmen* went to press early Tuesday afternoon.

Judy Wakefield contributed to this report.



Andover police officers outside the 20 Post Office Ave. apartment complex where multiple stabbings occurred on Tuesday morning.

Tax burden shifted in 3-2 vote

Residents see higher values, tax bills; businesses get bit of break

By Greta Cuyler

The average homeowner in Andover will pay about \$358 more in property taxes this year.

Selectmen changed the tax classification for residential and commercial properties Monday, shifting the burden somewhat more toward residents than last year with a vote of 3-2.

With Andover homes seeing a rise of 7 percent in assessed value this year, selectmen approved a slight drop in the residential tax rate from \$11.51 to \$11.40 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

Businesses will pay a slightly lower percentage of town taxes this year. While business values did not increase this year, businesses will see a slight decrease in their tax rate, as it drops from \$18 per \$1,000 of value to \$17.96 per \$1,000. Commercial and industrial taxpayers will pay 142 percent of what residential taxpayers pay in Andover.

Selectmen John Hess, Brian Major and Alex Vispoli approved the change. Chair-

man Ted Teichert and Selectman Mary Lyman voted against it. Lyman said residents are feeling the pinch from rising energy costs and health-care expenses. "We cannot offer them anything to help them with that burden," she said.

Ron Hill, head of the Andover Chamber of Commerce and an Andover resident, offered a different perspective.

"If it weren't for Raytheon, Gillette, Phillips and HP paying property tax, residential property tax would be a lot higher," he said Monday, before the vote.

"A lot of people in town talk about how they want to see more businesses move in," he said. "And in the next breath, they talk about raising the property tax — and those do not go hand in hand."

Residential home values have increased exponentially over the years, and Hill thinks it only fair that residents pay for that benefit. "They're getting so much more value out of their property than they used to."

By comparison, values for commercial

and industrial property did not increase during the past year.

"There is a perception that businesses want to move to Andover at any cost, just to have the cache of an Andover address," said Hill. "That's completely ridiculous. There are a lot of very attractive places to be."

Town Assessor Bruce Symmes said more businesses are moving into town than leaving. "But they're not rushing in," he said.

Earlier this year, Symmes had said there was no commercial or industrial growth from 2004 to 2005.

Hill said businesses are choosing not to come to Andover because they have other, more attractive options. He has heard that it might be less expensive to locate a business in North Andover or Methuen.

"We want to create the best possible environment for businesses to come here," said Hill. "In order to remain a viable destination and a great place to be, we have to maintain a competitive tax rate."

POLICE

The arrests from this week will appear in next week's paper. The *Townsmen* had an early deadline this week because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

FEASTER FIVE

ROAD RACE

Continued from page 2

races (19 & under, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80+). Certificates to all Kids' 1K participants. Age group prizes mailed.

5-MILE COURSE: Start on Main Street at Route 133 & Route 28. Straight through Andover Center, left on Morton, left on Bartlet, right

on Chestnut, left on Pasho, right on Summer, left on Washington, left on Elm, right on Maple, left on Walnut, right on High, left on Haverhill, right on York. Finish turning right into Brickstone Square parking lot.

5K COURSE: From starting line as 5K, left on Elm, left onto High (merge with 5-mile race at corner of High and Walnut; stay on left

side of street), follow 5-miler to York, finish in Brickstone parking lot.

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THE BACK PAGE

Beyond the Thanksgiving touchdowns



Bill Dalton

holding hands. The little boy couldn't see much because his view was blocked by bigger legs and bodies, and what he saw he didn't understand except it was exciting and fun.

After a while his feet began to hurt from the cold. His father sensed his discomfort and took him home.

Thanksgiving.

He was a small boy in a big crowd. It was the mid 1940s, and the boy was standing on the sidelines of a football game at the Playstead. Even though there were strangers all around, he felt secure for he was next to his father, and they were

Home was a short walk away and before they had opened the door to enter they could smell the turkey cooking. The little boy would never forget the nice feeling that was generated by that smell, the warmth of the house and, best of all, the greeting from his mother as if he'd been gone for days.

From that day on, Thanksgiving became the little boy's favorite holiday.

As years passed, he would never miss the holiday football game and always he'd go with his father. One year his older brother was co-captain of Punchard football and that made it a particularly exciting day. A few football seasons later the boy would himself play in the game. That Thanksgiving he would feel that, in some small way, he became part of a tradition.

Through all these years the routine continued and following the game he would return to the house to the warmth and the

beautiful smells.

It was the simplicity of it all, the recognition that there was much to be thankful for and a celebration of that fact, that made the holiday his favorite.

When the boy grew up and had a family of his own, the habit of going to the Thanksgiving football game with his father continued. It was also a tradition for his brothers, and together, no matter what the weather, they would all go to the game.

In 1982 the father went to his last game and he died the next year.

This Thanksgiving the boy who watched the game with his father almost 60 years ago will be with his son and grandson. They will watch the Thanksgiving game together, and it will be the grandson's first game. The boy of almost 60 years ago will be thankful for all that life has given him, and he will be particularly grateful to the man no longer there.

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Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS CALENDAR

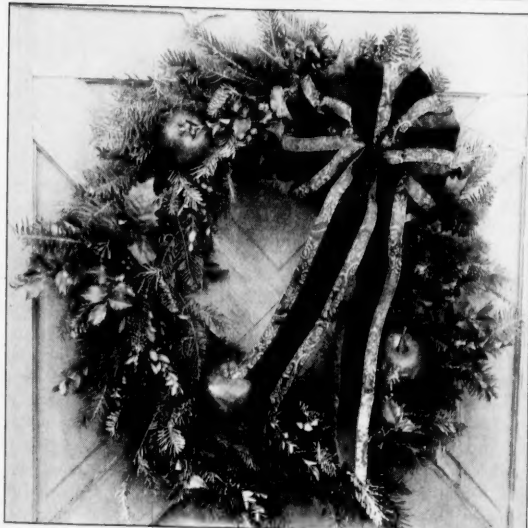


PHOTO BY FRANCES Y. WHEELER

A variety of handmade gifts and decorations – including traditional evergreen items such as this wreath created by an Andover Garden Club member – will be sold at the Homes for the Holidays boutique, which will run at West Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 3 (snow date Dec. 4), in tandem with the Andover Garden Club's Homes for the Holidays house tour. Details in next week's HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE special section.

Thursday, November 24 Thanksgiving Day

18th annual Feaster Five Road Race, Kids' 1K, 5-mile and 5K races/walks, Kids' 1K, 5-mile and 5K races/walks, Brickstone Square, intersection of Routes 133 (Haverhill Street) and Route 28 (Main Street), Kids' 1K 8 a.m., 5K run/walk 8:30 a.m., 5-mile run/walk 8:30 a.m.; \$25 after Nov. 19 (non-refundable); Kids' 1K is \$5. Make check payable to "DMSE/Feaster." Race day entries will be accepted. Electronic entries may be made by visiting www.feasterfive.com; Dave McGilivray Sports Enterprises Inc. (DMSE) 978-258-8226; dms@dmseports.com.

Thanks-4-Giving Road

Race/Walk, the fourth annual race and walk to raise funds for Alternative House, a non-profit, com-

prehensive organization for battered women, free pies to all who participate, 8 a.m., entry fee \$15 prepaid or \$20 on date of race, at the Lowell Lodge of Elks, Old Ferry Road, Lowell; 978-937-5777 or visit the Web site www.coolrunning.com for a registration form.

Zooights, the Stoneham Zoo is all decked out to sparkle, a winter wonderland filled with thousands of lights; visit the brightly-lit Yukon Creek, where arctic foxes, bald eagles, a lynx and a pair of real reindeer reside; Santa will be on hand for photos; Santa's Castle is full of fairy tale characters and dancing plush animals; daily through Dec. 30 (closed Dec. 25), 5-9 p.m., \$4 general admission, \$3 for members, free for children under 2, Stone Zoo, 149 Pond St., Stoneham; 617-541-5466 or www.zoonewengland.org.

Continued on page 8

Dancer on a fast track

Andover High '94 grad dances her way into 'White Christmas'

By Greta Cuyler

MELISSA RAE MAHON is no starving artist.

The former Andover resident has found it relatively easy, if not lucrative, to make a living on Broadway.

She has played Cassandra in *Cats* and 12 different roles in *The Producers*, was an ensemble cast member in *42nd Street* and performed for three years as a Radio City Rockette.

She will return to Boston on Nov. 25 to star as Rita in *White Christmas* at the Wang Center.

"I am very lucky to have had as much success as I have – having the opportunities and working with the people I have," she says.

Mahon has come a long way since getting her theatrical start at Andover High School. The 1994 graduate was involved in theater there and helped choreograph several shows, including *West Side Story* and *Grease*.

Mahon's family moved to Andover when she was in high school and she attended Andover High for her sophomore, junior and senior years.

Although her parents now live in New Hampshire, Mahon says that Andover is the place that felt the most like home to her growing up.

A classically trained ballerina who has also studied many other types of dance, Mahon took voice lessons and acting lessons to expand her professional repertoire. "I found out you can make a good living in this business as long as your skill set stays versatile," she says.



Almost home for the holidays – Melissa Rae Mahon returns to Boston as Rita in *White Christmas* at the Wang Center.

That versatility has served her well, since she realized early on that at 5'9" tall, she may not find many professional ballet roles. On pointe, she is at least 6'1" tall, and it became difficult to find male dancers tall enough to partner with.

Mahon joined the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera during her freshman year at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, Pa.

She received a bachelor's degree in dance and worked in the CLO's summer stock theater, doing six shows each summer. She graduated from college in three years and moved to New York City in the fall of 1997.

Mahon's versatility began to pay dividends quickly. Within two days of moving to New York in the fall of 1997, she ran

into a choreographer from CLO who offered her a job as his assistant on *The Sound of Music*, starring Richard Chamberlain. After a year and half with the show, she left to become a Radio City Rockette. For the next three years, she performed in the show, but says it was physically taxing. She often performed up to six shows a day during the Christmas Spectacular.

She joined *Cats* in the final year of its 18-year Broadway run until the show closed in September 1999. She then joined the first national tour of *The Producers*, starring Jason Alexander and Martin Short. She worked as a "swing," someone who knows every part in the show and can step into any one at a moment's notice. She performed 11 roles over the next year and half, appearing on stage about 70 percent of the time. But Mahon said it could get confusing. "You never know who you're going to be until a half-hour before the show goes on."

When the tour wrapped in Los Angeles, Mahon decided to take a break from theater. She moved to LA and did some theater, had a role on the television show *American Dreams* and acted in commercials for Ross Stores and Mervyn's. But she missed the theater life in New York and jumped at the chance to play her favorite role, Usherette, in *The Producers* a year later. She also understudied for Ulla, the show's female lead, and stepped in several times.

Most of Mahon's jobs have

Continued on page 10

Shifting from gritty to irresistible

Andover artist makes up movie cast, then runway models

By Judy Wakefield

JUST HOURS AFTER TOUCHING UP A CAST of unsavory characters in a movie being filmed in the outskirts of Andover, Pooman Ray was behind the scenes at a local wedding expo making sure the models wearing the gowns she designed looked just so.

She was exhausted, yes. But the chance to help people look gritty, then help models look glamorous was irresistible for this makeup artist. She couldn't wait to try shifting those gears.

"I like a challenge," she said. "Going from making everyone look bad to making sure models at a bridal show looked beautiful was a good experience."

Since late October she has been handling the makeup for the cast of *Second Wind*. The movie was inspired by Mike Warshawsky, founder of Andover's Commission on Disabilities. Wheelchair-bound due to a diving accident, he was a 10-year member of the commission. He died unexpectedly last year on Nov. 12.

His friend, movie director Daryl Silva, who grew up in Methuen, was inspired to make a movie centering around a wheelchair-bound lead actor. The movie was filmed in Haverhill, Salisbury and Methuen during the past few weeks and Ray was on the set many times for 12 to 14 hours.

Second Wind is focused on a character in a wheelchair. Silva did not return a tele-



Makeup artist Pooman Ray.

phone call from the *Townsmen*, but Ray said the wheelchair is apparently where the similarity to Warshawsky ends.

"He (Silva) has made it clear, he was inspired by Warshawsky. This is not a movie about him," Ray said.

Second City has a gritty feel to it, as fist fights are common and hospital scenes follow. Ray does the makeup for all those blood-trickling-from-the-mouth scenes.

"There were lots of challenges in the movie for me. There is a dead mother who

talked to her son and there are many facial injuries," Ray said. "I had to make everyone look bad and there are 40 characters. Every day was a surprise."

That was a far cry from where she spent most of Sunday, Nov. 13. She was at a bridal show staged at the Andover Wyndham Hotel where she helped models get ready for the runway, and they were wearing the spectacular Indian wedding gowns she designed.

It's a way to stay well-connected to her homeland as about-to-be brides are eager to show their Indian heritage. Simple and white is out of the question, as Indian brides prefer ornate dresses with lots of gold beading along with lots of jewelry and makeup. The brides wear red as it's the color of prosperity and is said to bring good luck to couples.

Ray, who is married and the mother of two children, ages 9 and 15, meets with brides then works with seamstresses in India

Continued on page 10

Andover makeup artist Pooman Ray designs ornate wedding dresses for Indian brides and often decorates their arms and feet, too. It's an intricate ancient Indian art called "mehndi," commonly known as "henna," and is done on the arms and feet of brides. Shown at right is a henna treatment done on a bride's arms.



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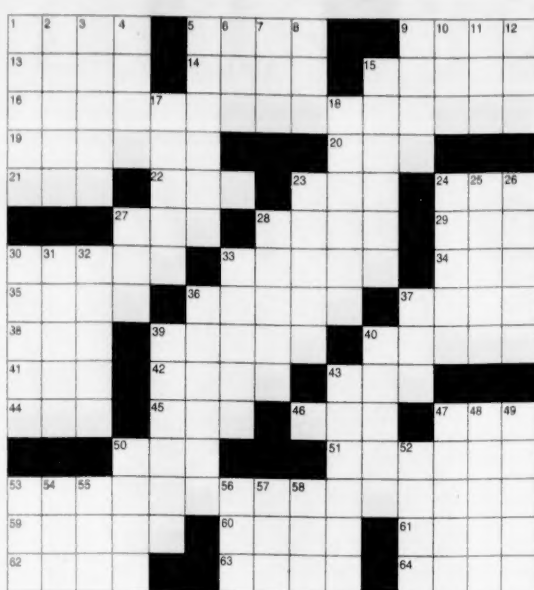
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. ... mater, one's school
5. Origin
9. Assist
13. Winder
14. At a specific prior time
15. Japanese city
16. Sounds from a comedy club
19. U.N. group
20. Travel a route regularly
21. Compass pt.
22. Copy
23. Caliph
24. Tell on
27. Promotions
28. ... Ladd, actor
29. Reverence
30. Conics
33. Supporter
34. A quantity of no importance
35. Age
36. In a way, discolored
37. Make perfect
38. An informal dance
39. Navigational device
40. Strip of unpaved land that borders a road
41. The letter L
42. Persuade
43. Title of respect
44. Beam out
45. A hiding place
46. Belonging to a thing
47. Pen brand
50. Sick



51. Salt or ester of hydriodic acid
53. German opera
59. Instruments
60. U.S. island territory
61. Portion of food served and eaten at one time
62. Carryall
63. Used in laboratories
64. Capital of Norway

CLUES DOWN

1. Dispute
2. Tends
3. Disturbance
4. Brews
5. Crouches
6. Extremely high frequency
7. Soft-finned fish
8. Gil and Horatio's proof
9. With fireplace residue
10. Used for hitting the ball
11. Supplement with difficulty
12. Mariner
15. A way of looking
17. Piles
18. Highland
23. Foreign person
24. Used in shaving
25. Causing wonder
26. Wigwag
27. Brew
28. Quench
30. Used when something not already mentioned
31. Slightly larger than a violin, tuned a fifth lower
32. Ample
33. Wrap
36. Anagram of lowelp
37. Of she
39. Anagram of seldsl
40. Shades the eyes
43. A skin lesion that is a diagnostic sign of some disease
47. Pungencies
48. Someone worthy of imitation
49. Member of violin family
50. A small island
52. Showing
53. Rack up points
54. Rapid bustling movement
55. Denial
56. The length of time something (or someone) has existed
57. Crank
58. One of twelve sons of Jacob

SOLUTION ON PAGE 9

EVENTS CALENDAR

■ NOV. 24 THRU DEC. 4

Continued from page 7

Friday, November 25

Peter Pan, the James M. Barrie tale of everlasting childhood will be presented by the Pentucket Players, 8 p.m., tickets \$21, at the Rogers Center for the Performing Arts on the campus of Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St. (Route 114), North Andover; 978-521-9259 or visit the Web site www.pentucket-players.org.

Saturday, November 26

Oliver, the musical adaptation of Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist* is presented by the St. John's Preparatory School Drama Guild, including Andover resident Stephen Chan among the cast; bringing to life unforgettable characters such as Fagin, the Artful Dodger, and Oliver himself, and delighting audiences with a host of familiar tunes such as "Consider Yourself," "As Long as He Needs Me," and "Pick a Pocket or Two," 7:30 p.m., \$12, \$10 for seniors and students, in Kaneb Theatre, Alumni Hall, on the school campus at 72 Spring St., Danvers; tickets available in advance by email to Brother Ron Santoro at rsantoro@stjohnsprep.org or at the door as available.

Sunday, November 27

Santa arrives, the Andover Firefighters present the 50th annual Firefighters Santa Parade, featuring marching bands, clowns, floats, dancers, antique fire trucks and Santa himself, 1 p.m., starting from the Doherty Middle School at 30 Bartlet St., and traveling up Whittier to Elm, Main and returning to Bartlet; to contribute or participate call Dave Lynch 978-475-1220 or e-mail dlyn@andoverps.net.

Oliver, the musical, 2:30 p.m., see entry for Saturday, Nov. 26.

Monday, November 28

No events listed.

Tuesday, November 29

College financial seminar, a representative from the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA) will discuss aspects of the financial aid process that Andover High School and Phillips Academy students and their parents will go through when applying to colleges, including such topics as how to fill out financial aid application forms, how financial aid is calculated and awarded, how to compare financial aid award letters and how to make alternative financing decisions, 7-9 p.m., free, Andover High School, 80 Shawshen Rd.; Peggy Cain 978-623-8603.

City of God, third in an International film series presented by Merrimack College, this shockingly violent film shows the unbelievable poverty, greed, danger and crime in the Cidade de Deus - a housing project started in the '60s that became one of the most dangerous places in Rio de Janeiro, 7 p.m., free and open to the public, discussion prior to film at 6:30 p.m., along with refreshments, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; 978-837-5355.

Wednesday, November 30

Adoption information, the Florence Crittenton League Adoption Agency will hold a general information session, at which adoptive couples will speak and the agency's programs will be described, 7 p.m., at the League offices, 119 Hall St., Lowell; 978-452-9671 or www.fclleague.org.

Thursday, December 1

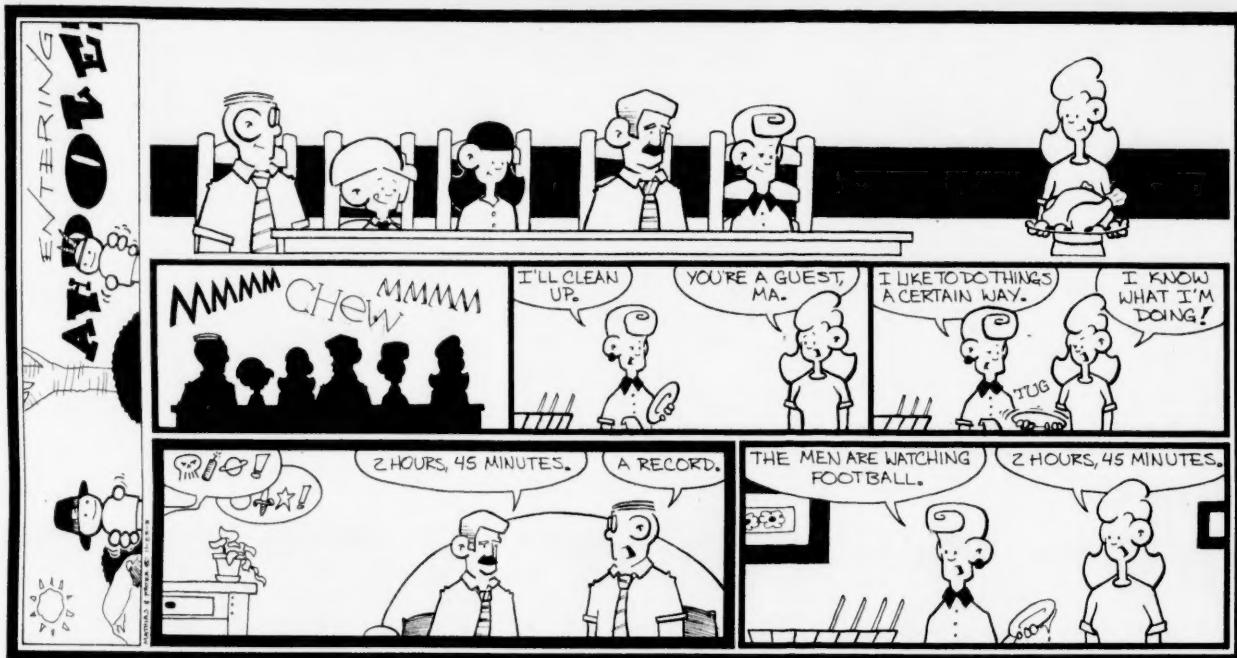
PAC crafts fair, a Holiday Crafts Fair and Shopping Night, featuring many fine handcrafts and jewelry, door prizes and raffles, 6-9 p.m., Doherty Middle School cafeteria, 50 Bartlet St.; Mamie Burton 978-475-4834.

Profile-taking, silhouette artist Jean

Continued on page 9

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EVENTS CALENDAR

■ NOV. 24 THRU DEC. 4

Continued from page 8

Comerford, one of only four such artists working in New England, will create personal profiles, by appointment only, 5 p.m., reservations at \$25 or \$10, with onsite framing available, Memorial Hall Library, Elm Square; Norma Gammon 978-623-8401, Ext. 49.

Women of the Bible, a dramatic presentation by professional actress Anita Gutschick, who recounts the personal stories of such familiar matriarchs as Sara and Martha through a series of monologues with a balance of humor and seri-

ous content that appeals to both men and women and is appropriate for children 8 and older, 7 p.m., free of charge, St. Augustine Church, 43 Essex St.; 978-475-7612.

Artisans in the Open, a collection of artists who create handmade works including sculpture, pottery, photography, jewelry, furniture, textiles, stained glass and more, will hold their holiday art sale through Saturday, 4-8 p.m., free admission, Unitarian Church, 26 Pleasant St., Newburyport; Nancy Langmeyer 978-499-9535.

Friday, December 2

Concert at Phillips Academy, the symphony and chamber orchestras of the school will perform works by Saint-Saëns, Liszt, Mozart, Corelli and Beethoven, featuring Andover resident Andrew Hsiao, 7:30 p.m., free and open to the public, Cochran Chapel, 2 Chapel Ave.; 978-749-4995.

Pie Social, 6:30-8 p.m., followed on Saturday by a Holiday Fair, Tewksbury Congregational Church, 10 East St., Tewksbury; 978-851-9411.

Oliver, the musical, 7:30 p.m., see entry for Saturday, Nov. 26.

Artisans in the Open holiday sale, 2-9 p.m., see entry for Thursday, Dec. 1.

Saturday, December 3

St. Augustine School Christmas Treasures, featuring professional crafters, pictures with Santa, children's entertainment, handmade gingerbread houses and boxwood trees, candy and baked goods and raffles, including cash raffles, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Augustine School, 26 Central St.; 978-475-2414.

Zoolights, the Stoneham Zoo is all decked out to sparkle, a winter wonderland filled with thousands of lights; visit the brightly-lit Yukon Creek, where Arctic foxes, bald

eagles, a lynx and a pair of real reindeer reside; Santa will be on hand for photos; Santa's Castle is full of fairy tale characters and dancing plush animals; daily through Dec. 30 (closed Dec. 25), 5-9 p.m., \$4 general admission, \$3 for members, free for children under 2, Stone Zoo, 149 Pond St., Stoneham; 617-541-5466 or www.zooneengland.org.

Artists reception and open house, to highlight the show, *Counterpoints*, featuring the work of two artists, veteran painter John Mulcahy and watercolorist Stephanie Anderson, 6-9 p.m., free and open to the public, Alpers Fine Art of Andover, 2 Main St., regular gallery hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; 978-470-0013 or www.alpersfineart.com.

Nevins 7th Winter Festival, the MSPCA at Nevins Farm opens its doors for two weeks, through Dec. 11, and welcomes shoppers to the gift shop, open daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m., and filled with traditional hol-

Continued on page 10

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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ADDISON GALLERY CELEBRATES THE SEASON OF THE CHILD — Two exhibitions at the Addison Gallery of American Art celebrate children: "Little Women, Little Men: Folk Art Portraits of Children from the Fenimore Art Museum" and "Child's Play: Children from the Addison Collection" are both on display through Dec. 31. Organizers said, "Whether portrayed as little adults or captured in light-hearted play, the images survey the many environs children have inhabited and the evolving roles they have been assigned over time." Above, *School Room*, 1830, by an anonymous artist, oil on canvas, 18 x 23 inches.

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Andover makeup artist Pooman Ray applies the finishing touches to Sanjay Kaul on the set of the film *The Voodoo Dancer*, which was shot in Andover during May 2004.

It's all in her makeup

POOMAN RAY
Continued from page 7

to make the gowns. Ray often decorates their arms and feet, too, using the ancient Indian art of mehndi, commonly known as henna. It looks like tattoos, but lasts only a couple of weeks.

Brides choose how dark they want their henna and they choose designs. It takes Ray about four hours to design each person's body art.

"It's an Indian custom and the girls love the beauty of it," Ray said.

Licensed in cosmetology and

skin care, Ray also serves clients at Health Time Therapeutic Massage & Medi Spa in North Reading where she is known for her "threading" technique. It's more commonly called eyebrow shaping. She goes by the name "Sondarya" and clients pay \$15 to have their eyebrows shaped with thread instead of tweezers. Threading is said to be less painful than tweezers.

"For me, keeping busy with all of this is important," she said. "Yes, I go from glamorous work to making people look scary. I like that challenge."

NOV. 24 THRU DEC. 4

Continued from page 9

iday gifts, crafts, greenery and pet related gifts; Silver Bells Basket raffle featuring amazing baskets donated by local businesses and families. Santa Photo Days will be each Saturday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; also featuring new activities for children while parents shop. Nevins Farm, 400 Broadway (Route 28) in Methuen; Jill O'Connell 978-687-7453, Ext. 6015.

Rock for a Cause, third annual concert to benefit the VH1 Save the Music Foundation, which is dedicated to preserving music programs in America's schools, featuring five local musical acts, including Todd Martin, Pete Kilpatrick, Endway, Six Day Slide and headliner Waltham, doors open at 6:30, show begins at 7 p.m., \$10 advance general admission, \$12 at the door, \$7 students, Sakowich Campus Center, Multipurpose Room, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; 978-837-5508.

Red Bow Fair, featuring New England crafters and artisans, plus an array of holiday arrangements such as swags, wreaths, boxwood trees, kissing balls, handmade crafts, ornaments, a silent auction, gift baskets, raffles, Kid's Mall, Granny's Attic, photos with Santa and more, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., free, North Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of North Andover, 190 Academy Rd., North Andover; 978-689-9549.

Holiday sale benefit, three members of the Weavers' Guild of Boston, who share their knowledge of weaving at the museum throughout the year, have generously donated handwoven items for a one-time

sale to benefit the museum, including everything from handwoven bookmarks to dressy jackets, purses, scarves, shawls, table linen, vests, jewelry and much more, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., free, American Textile History Museum, 491 Dutton St., Lowell; 978-441-0400 or visit the Web site www.athm.org

Kwanzaa, an African-American celebration of light and harvest that has been celebrated in the US for more than 30 years, will be observed by Phillips Academy, featuring readings and reflections by faculty, staff and students, and music by the Phillips Academy Gospel Choir, 7:30 p.m., free and open to the public, Cochran Chapel, 2 Chapel Ave.; 978-749-4263.

Cantemus holiday concerts, the Cantemus Chamber Choir will present "Mother and Child," a seasonal program of motets, Mass settings and carols spanning the continents and the centuries, featuring 31 voices with piano, organ, flute and bassoon accompaniment in just two performances, 7:30 p.m., Christ Church, 149 Asbury St., Hamilton, and Sunday in Newburyport, tickets at the door \$20, \$15 seniors, free to students 21 and under; 1-800-CHO-RUS1.

Arts and Crafts at the Rock, annual holiday crafts festival at historic Rockingham Park, featuring fine jewelry, country woodcrafts, holiday decor, pottery, musical snowmen, folk toys, original art, one-of-a-kind ornaments, paper craft, metal sculpture and more, live entertainment, all indoor show, \$5 admission, free for children under 14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Rockingham Park Racetrack, Exit 1 off Interstate 93 in Salem, N.H.; 603-332-2616 or www.craftshowtoday.com.

Oliver, the musical, 7:30 p.m., see

entry for Saturday, Nov. 26.

Artisans in the Open holiday sale, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., see entry for Thursday, Dec. 1.

Sunday, December 4

Concert at the library, soprano



Ruth Harcovitz

Ruth Harcovitz sings *Tales from Vienna Woods*, a "golden operetta," 2 p.m., free and open to the public, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Memorial Hall Library, Main Street; 978-623-8400.

Tree-lighting, the Ballardvale tree

lighting ceremony will be held on Ballardvale Green, 5 p.m., featuring the "smallest tree" and a carol sing, refreshments provided, free and open to everyone, including dogs if on leashes; 978-475-0125.

Author sighting and book signing, Carol Saline, author of the recently published *A Day in the Life of the American Woman*, will tell the story behind the story told in the book, 7 p.m., followed by book signings, Senior Center, Bartlett Street; Pat Becker 978-623-8321.

Service of Lessons and Carols, derived from ancient sources and celebrated according to its usage at King's College, Cambridge, England, the service consists of traditional readings and carols, 4:30 p.m., free and open to the public, Cochran Chapel, 2 Chapel Ave.; 978-749-42635.

Dancer in White Christmas

MELISSA RAE MAHON

Continued from page 7

come about from people she has worked with in the past. "That's sort of the secret to work: work leads to work," she says. "It's about making connections when you are working, doing the best you can."

Next up for Mahon is an ensemble role for the movie version of *The Producers*. She plays one of the old ladies with whom Nathan Lane has an affair. She is currently starring in three different commercials for Campbell's Soup, as one of the girls on John Lithgow's arm. She is also slated to play Pegeen in *Mame* at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

The downside to Mahon's success is that she finds it difficult to plan her personal life. "It's not like you're on a business trip for two weeks. It's two years," she says.

Mahon does have some downtime scheduled from January through April, during which she plans to take at least a couple of weeks off. But she is also trying to schedule some work during that time.

"I think that the people who are successful (in this business) are self-motivated and have a lot of self-discipline," she says.

In the meantime, Mahon says her mother is just happy that her daughter will be home for holiday dinner this year.

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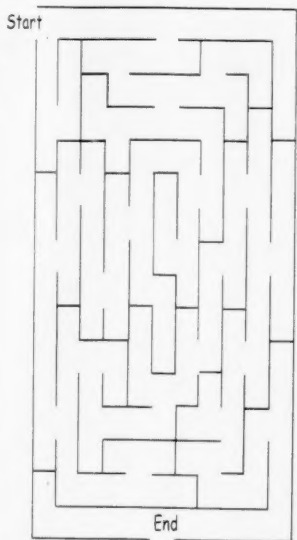
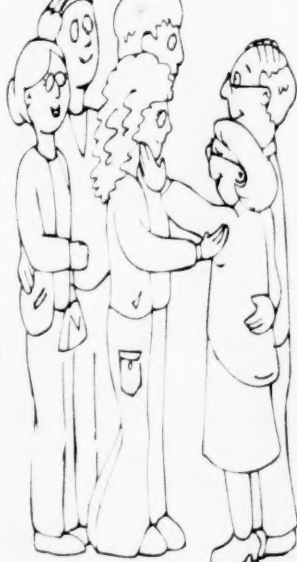
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FOR THE KID IN YOU
Newspapers in Education
Thanks for our families
Families gather Nov. 24 to celebrate Thanksgiving. It is a perfect time to work on your genealogy and family history.
Genealogy is the study of the descendants in a family.
Family history adds biographical information to fill out the story.
How should you start your family history book?
Develop a plan. You may need a note pad, tape recorder, camera or video camera. You might need adult help with the video camera.
Begin with ancestors you know. Last week you started your family's migration history. The next step is interviewing family who come for Thanksgiving dinner.
Ask about these key facts:
* Full name
* Date and place of birth
* Their parents.
Don't forget to take their pictures for your book.
Record some of their memories. Fill in your family tree as you go.
Ask family members for information about any relatives they know about. Get copies of birth and death certificates, marriage licenses and burial information.
Newspaper birth announcements and obituaries can help. Other news clippings can give interesting information for your history. Look in scrapbooks and family Bibles. Add other relatives who might come for Christmas or other holidays. You will want to include them in your book. You can research other ancestors on the Internet or at the library.
After you gather the information, make a family scrapbook.
Don't sell your investigation short. You can start by charting a handful of people. However, you may want to add to your book throughout your life.

Class activity

1. Find words in your newspaper that would describe your family.
2. Find articles in the newspaper that would help in building a family history. Discuss why newspapers include information such as birth announcements or obituaries.



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Opinion

Time to give thanks

You can tell by the increased traffic on area roads that the start of the holidays is nearly here. Gasoline prices are finally drifting downward, just in time for the folks driving back to Andover, who will be glad to arrive at their old familiar destinations.

The traditional Andover Interfaith Thanksgiving Service is the pause before all the activity starts, taking place Wednesday evening, Nov. 23 at 7, hosted by West Parish Church.

Thursday morning brings some familiar rituals around town again. The 18th annual Feather Five Road Race sets off from Shawsheen Square, with the Kids 1K at 8 a.m., and both the 5K and 5-mile run/walks beginning at 8:30.

Then Golden Warriors host Central Catholic at 10:30 a.m. The match was switched to Lovely Field because Veterans Stadium in Lawrence is being renovated and was not ready for prime time.

After that, the oven clocks begin to buzz and it's time for feasting, with turkey as the centerpiece, followed by pies earned by all the road race finishers.

Friday night will see a number of Andover High reunions in the area.

Sunday brings Santa as the Andover Firefighters present their 50th annual Santa Parade, featuring marching bands, fire trucks, lots of children, and Santa himself. The parade steps off at 1 p.m., beginning from outside Doherty Middle School.

We're grateful for all of these happy traditions, which bring so many smiles to so many townspeople's faces.

Information overload

IN 1999, RESIDENTS APPROVED more than \$2 million to recap the landfill under the Deyermund fields. In the six years since then, a shovel has not hit the ground, but the town is now talking about also capping additional landfill space to build new fields.

Abutters' questions about the condition of that land will need to be answered in greater detail before a Town Meeting will approve the additional \$5.5 million or more the town needs. Health Director Everett Penney has built a reputation as a straight shooter, and says the land is clean. But anything additional the town can do to inform residents about its test results is needed.

Concerns already have hurt the youth-center effort. Additional information will help the town set the proper course for creating both future fields and the youth center.

Web question

Agree with dead-of-winter shutdown?

Last week's *Andover Townsman* Web-site question was: Wrestling was tossed from the sports mat at Andover High School 26 years ago. Since then, there has been no wrestling at AHS, and interested boys have been playing for a North Andover club team. Do you approve of Andover High bringing back its program?

31 people responded.

• 10, or 32 percent said, "Yes, absolutely. Wrestling is a mainstream sport that should definitely be part of any high school's athletic program's repertoire."

• 9, or 29 percent said, "Yes. And I support Andover Youth Services stepping up with a feeder system. It may take a couple of years for a high school program to materialize and that's fine."

• 2, or 6 percent said, "No. We have enough sports at AHS. North Andover is not that far away."

• 10, or 32 percent said, "No. Keep it an AYS club. We don't have the money to fund another sport."

• No one said, "Other."

This week's *Andover Townsman* Web-site question is: The latest wave of budget cuts in town is being felt by the Department of Community Services. Their winter classes are set to start in January, but start dates could be postponed until late February to save money on heating costs. Do you agree with this?

• Yes, it's a great idea because it will save the town some money.

• Yes, but I think some reorganization is in order. Run the most popular classes in one location.

• Not at all because January is the time to take many of the DCS courses, like aerobics, yoga and picture-framing. I like having something to do in the winter.

• No, because DCS pulls in money for the town as is (\$325,000). Leave it alone!

• Other.

To vote, surf to www.andovertownsman.com.

SHAVE AND A HAIRCUT



J.R. Perez cuts Mike Kaczynski's hair in Andover Barber Shop Tuesday afternoon. The shop was full of people getting their hair cut to look their best for Thanksgiving.

LETTERS

Student helps seniors be on air

Editor, *Townsman*:

I thoroughly enjoyed the *Townsman's* recent profile of Dan Sarno ("It's Alright at Andover High," Arts & Entertainment, Nov. 3). Too often these days we hear only about teenagers who are troubled and in trouble; so it was a pleasure to read about Dan, a remarkable young man who is a positive role model for his contemporaries.

In addition to the respect and admiration of his peers, Dan also has won the hearts of many of Andover's senior citizens, especially those of us who produce the cable access TV show, *There's Something About Andover*. Dan serves as our teacher, advisor and assistant, and we really appreciate his unassuming manner, patience and good nature in sharing his talent with us.

Rose M. Mula
C-1 Colonial Drive

Thankful, religious and tolerant



Rabbi Robert Goldstein

Thanksgiving reminds us that in this country you can be religious without being narrow-minded and triumphal.

As Thanksgiving approaches and I pause to consider how extraordinarily blessed I am to be living in this land of freedom, two national heroes come to mind — two men of deep and abiding faith, whose lives are testimony to that uniquely American value of piety and tolerance.

One is former Republican senator John C. Danforth, a distinguished politician, ambassador and ordained Episcopal priest. Danforth contends that the overriding principle of his faith is to love all of God's creatures, a teaching so fun-

damental it towers over all others. Imbedded in that doctrine is an assumption that there is a place in this world for people of many different faiths.

My other hero is former president Jimmy Carter. Jimmy Carter, a Democrat, was never afraid to speak of his faith. His own life and witness testify to his strong belief in the power of religion in people's lives. This attitude never undermined his forbearance for those who shared neither his theology nor his politics.

Danforth and Carter each possess an increasingly rare spiritual confidence that allows for other beliefs and practices. Their commitment to the tenets of American democracy, liberty, and tolerance neither contradicts nor threatens their personal faith.

As presidential candidate John F. Kennedy said to the Houston Ministerial Association 45 years ago, it's "not what kind of church I believe in, for that should be important only to me — but what kind of America I believe in."

Thanksgiving is the perfect time to celebrate the extraordinary blessings with which we are graced, and to reaffirm the uniquely American reverence for the inherent dignity of every human being regardless of faith.

Rabbi Robert S. Goldstein is the spiritual leader of Temple Emanuel of Andover.

Another lap around poolhouse issue: Director did not have authority

Editor, *Townsman*:

Further input regarding the cabana/pool problem at 3 Hazelwood Circle and the Andover letters to the editor:

I commend Nancy Jones (Letters, "Facts buoy case of cabana homeowner," Nov. 17) for her research and report on the Gibson family's cabana/pool project. Everything falls into place for this project except for one little detail. That detail is that former conservation director James Greer simply exceeded his authority and gave verbal authorization to proceed with the project without the proper filing, payment of permits and review by the abutters of the proposed property changes and possible impacts of known wetlands issues.

If the homeowner had been anything else other than a lawyer with complete knowledge of real estate and Massachusetts laws regarding real estate and the problems of wetlands, I for one would also look for ways to resolve his current problem.

It is easy to see that this letter writer does not have a high opinion of the homeowner's action in this matter or Greer and any verbal approvals he issued. Simply put, any and all permits (including wetlands review, if required) must be properly filed and paid for so that no issue can be raised against the completion of a property change or improvement. It would appear that the property owner and Greer entered into the verbal agreement in an attempt to ignore and avoid the messy position both now have.

The article on page 8 of the Nov. 17 *Andover Townsman* by Greta Cuyler was an excellent summation of the problem caused by Greer. It is a shame that abutters must hire lawyers to protect their rights as citizens of this town.

Richard A. Pangonis
30 Linda Road

Teacher thankful for what school community offers

Editor, *Townsman*:

As I sat reflecting on the year and taking an accounting of that for which I am thankful, I realized something. In addition to being thankful for "the usual," I find myself grateful for the people associated with my second home — Andover Public Schools.

As teachers and parents we are charged with helping to produce our next generation of informed and productive members of society. If the events of the past week are any measure of our success, we have done an admirable job.

This week I saw districtwide efforts to replenish the decimated supplies of the Merrimack Valley food pantries. In particular, the high school had a goal of collecting 2,000 items. When the vans from the Salvation Army finally left on Friday, they took with them more than 5,000 non-perishable items of food. To reach this, dozens of students and teachers collected food, packed and organized, danced while dressed as cans and pasta boxes, read poetry, made signs and played music. "Yes we can" became our theme of the

week.

On Friday, a single student organized an event to observe National Stand Down Day, which coincides with the beginning of the military action in Iraq. At 10:15 a.m., 75 students walked out of class and stood out in the courtyard, joined by some members of Merrimack Valley People for Peace and others from the community to respectfully honor our troops, remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice and ask the Bush administration to bring our troops home.

Once again, the members of the Andover Drama Guild made me forget that I was attending a student and not a professional production. The cast, crew and pit of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* blew me away with their performance. When I was asked to participate in the show as a Hairy Ishmaelite, I was honored at the privilege. Imagine my surprise when the kids thanked me for participating.

Saturday night Andover filled our bleachers beyond capacity in Hudson (of all

places) to watch the AHS girls' volleyball team make its first attempt at the state title. In the stands there were students, K-12 faculty, retired faculty, alumni, alumni parents, School Committee members and our ever-present Principal Peter Anderson. Not only did we cheer on our team, when our girls played their hearts out only to be defeated by a Massachusetts volleyball dynasty, we did the most amazing thing. We clapped for the victors. Such class!

So in this season of giving thanks, I am thankful for the health of my family and friends. I am thankful to live in relative peace and tranquility. I am thankful for the many gifts that have been bestowed upon me. But I am also so grateful to be associated with such a talented and generous faculty and students who go about their lives quietly doing wonderful things.

Have a wonderful holiday season.

Ruth G. Masters
Lynnfield

The writer is an Andover High School social studies teacher.

Andover Townsman

Established 1887

Publisher
Richard M. Franks

Editor
Neil Fater

General manager
Ellen K. Zappala

Assistant editor
Jack Grady

Published Thursdays by Andover Publishing Co.

33 Chestnut St., Box 1986, Andover, MA 01810

978-475-7000 Ad fax 978-475-5731 News fax 978-470-2819

E-mail nfater@andovertownsman.com Web www.andovertownsman.com

RELIGION
NOTESDrama portrays
'Women of Bible'

St. Augustine Parish is sponsoring a special dramatic presentation on "Women of the Bible" by professional actress Anita Gutschick on Thursday, Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. at St. Augustine Church, 43 Essex St.

Told through a series of monologues, Gutschick will vividly portray Sarah, Martha, and the Sinful Woman, recounting their personal stories and shedding light on their lives in a dramatic and engaging way.

Organizers describe this program as having a balance of humor and serious content; an appeal to both men and women; and appropriate for children over the age of 8.

The program is free. For more information, call 978-475-7612.

Andover
Interfaith
Thanksgiving
Service planned

West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road, will host the Andover Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Wednesday evening, Nov. 23 at 7.

The Rev. Ed Deyton, of Ballardvale United Church, will preach this service along with other Andover religious leaders.

"All are welcome to join us for this special service," organizers said.

West Parish is wheelchair accessible.

**OBITUARIES ARE
SUPPLIED BY
FUNERAL HOMES AND
FAMILY MEMBERS**

Cecelia M.
Cairns

Moved to Florida
in 1979

Cecelia M. Cairns, 98, of Bradenton, Fla., and formerly of Andover, died Wednesday, Nov. 16.

Born on Oct. 22, 1907, in Lawrence, she moved to Florida in 1979 from Andover.

She was a homemaker and a Catholic.

She was the widow of Frank Cairns.

Members of her family include three daughters, Barbara A. Weymans of Bradenton, Shirley Clarke of Palm City, Fla., and Janice Barbati of Amesbury; a sister, Juliet Bellevue of West Ossipee, N.H.; 11 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

All services will be held in Bradenton under the direction of Brown & Sons Funeral Home, 43rd St. Chapel, Bradenton, Fla.

OBITUARIES

The *Townsmen* will publish obituaries of Andover residents without charge.

The paper also will publish without charge a short announcement of those people who died and did not live here, but are related to someone who lives in Andover. This listing will include the name of the deceased, where he or she lived, when he or she died, and names of relatives in Andover.

Those who wish to have a complete obituary published about a person who did not live in Andover can pay for a death notice. The cost of a death notice depends on the length of the notice.

Questions? Call Jack Grady or Neil Fater at 978-475-7000.

Krista M.
Raymond

Tech School grad dies
after car accident

Krista M. Raymond, 22, of Salem, N.H. and formerly of Lawrence, and her infant daughter, Elle Marie Demers, died Thursday, Nov. 17, at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston from injuries suffered in a car accident on South Main Street (Route 28) in Andover.

Ms. Raymond was nine months pregnant with her daughter at the time of the accident.

She was born in Methuen, educated in the Lawrence schools, and was a graduate of the Greater Lawrence Technical School in Andover.

Ms. Raymond was a parishioner of Saint Patrick's Church in Lawrence. She was a teacher for the Bright Horizons Day Care Center in Reading.

She enjoyed snowboarding, shopping for clothes, camping and outdoor events. She especially loved to be with her family and friends.

Family members include her fiancé and Elle's father, George J. Demers Jr. of Salem, N.H.; mother, and Elle's grandmother, Sheila (Decharme) Caron of Lawrence; father, and Elle's grandfather, Yves Raymond of

OBITUARIES

DEATHS

Cecelia M. Cairns, 98
Sylvia Diamond, 87
Lisa J. Hayes, 32
Al Magoon, 96
Raymond Metzemaekers, 78
Krista M. Raymond, 22

DEATHS ELSEWHERE

DIAMOND — Sylvia (Taskle) Diamond, 87, of Haverhill, died Sunday, Nov. 20 at the Kenoza Manor Nursing Home. She was a member of the Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Andover.

MAGOON — Al Magoon, 96, of Lawrence, died Sunday, Nov. 20. Members of his family include his daughter, Joan Burke of Andover.

METZEMAEEKERS — Raymond A. Metzemaekers, 78, of Londonderry, N.H. died Friday, Nov. 18, at Caritas Holy Family Hospital. Mr. Metzemaekers was a horticulturist whose services were known throughout the Merrimack Valley, including Konjoian's Greenhouses in Andover.

New Hampshire; brother, and Elle's uncle, Michael Y. Raymond of Andover; uncles, Kyle and his wife Tina Decharme of Lawrence, and Eric Demers of Salem, N.H.; aunts, Linda Raymond of Lawrence, Susan Raymond of Lawrence, Lisa (Raymond) Zantiny of Jordan, formerly of Lawrence, and Laurina Demers of Salem, N.H.; grandparents, Paula and George Demers Sr. of Salem, N.H.; great-grandmother, Mrs. Jean Demers of Ossipee, N.H.; great-grandmother, Roland Raymond formerly of Methuen; as well as several cousins.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated Wednesday, Nov. 23, at 11 a.m. in Saint Patrick's Church in Lawrence. Burial will follow at the Saint Mary's Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Lawrence.

Arrangements are by the John Breen Funeral Home, 122

Amesbury St., Lawrence.

Lisa J. Hayes

1991 AHS grad was
known for singing voice

Lisa J. Hayes, 32, of Andover, beloved daughter of Charles Hayes and Patricia Stoute, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, Nov. 8, at Beth Israel Hospital in Boston.

She was born in Andover on May 3, 1973. She resided in Haverhill for the past eight years, having formerly lived in Andover for the previous 24 years.

She was a 1991 graduate of Andover High School where she was a tri-varsity athlete in soccer, softball, and gymnastics. She was also elected Junior Prom Queen. Shortly thereafter, she enrolled in Bradford College where she was voted "New Stu-

dent of the Year."

Miss Hayes was a devout Christian, music lover and an active member of Haverhill's Calvary Baptist Church. Blessed with a wonderful singing voice, she received a grant from Calvary to study music at Bradford College.

In addition to her parents, members of her family include her stepmother, Margo Senia Hayes, of Largo, Fla.; a brother, Reiji Hayes, of Chicago, Ill.; paternal grandparents, William and Frances Hayes, of Boston; and many aunts, uncles and cousins throughout the United States and Barbados.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Calvary Baptist Church Scholarship Fund, Calvary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 781, Haverhill, MA 01831.

Arrangements were by Farmer H.L. & Sons Funeral Home in Haverhill/Bradford.

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

100 Years Ago — 1905

Miss Minnie Brackett of Peak's Island is visiting Miss Mabel Lawson on Maple Avenue.

Rev. James Thomas, Ph.D. of Worcester will occupy the pulpit at the morning and evening services at the Baptist Church next Sunday.

The football game that was to have been played between the Andover Athletic Association team and Nashua High last Saturday afternoon was postponed, as the latter team did not appear.

The regular meeting of the Andover Coublen No. 65 Royal Ascanum will be held this evening.

The fire department was called out Tuesday afternoon shortly after 3 o'clock, an alarm being pulled on Box 56 in Abbot Village. The fire was in a hen house owned by John Leary on Bakers Lane. The damage, which was slight, was caused by children playing with matches.

Hugh Kydd has had the pipes for Town water put into his tenements this week.

George Campbell is occupying the tenement recently vacated by Falconer McKentle on Cuba Street.

John B. Jenkins, a well known resident of this town who lost a leg by amputation a few years ago, went through another operation at the Lawrence Hospital on Wednesday afternoon when it was found necessary to amputate the other foot at the ankle. Reports from the bedside state that the patient is resting as comfortably as could be expected.

The senior play, which occurs tonight, promises to be well worth seeing. The members of the class have put forward their best efforts to have the affair a success and it is hoped a large number of the friends of the school will be present.

A Thanksgiving prayer service with orchestral accompaniment will be held at the Free Church on Sunday evening at 6:30 o'clock.

Mrs. N. E. Blackburn has gone to Rockland, Maine where she will visit friends for several weeks.

75 Years Ago — 1930

Mrs. James Purcell of Elm Street suffered a broken arm recently.

A meeting of the November Club, postponed because of the death of Miss Bertha Bailey, will be held next Monday evening at 8 o'clock. The Dramatic Department will then present two one-act plays. The Art Department of the November Club will meet Monday at 3 o'clock with Mrs. Philip R. French.

A Triangular Dance for Methuen, Johnson and Pynchard high schools will be held on Thanksgiving night at 8 in the town hall under the auspices of Pynchard Athletic Association. The football squads of each school are to be especially invited guests. It is expected that a large number of students and alumni will be present.

A barn and a number of pigs were destroyed by fire on River Road last Friday night. Damage was estimated at \$1,500. A horse and 21 pigs were driven to safety by Arthur Labreck and Fred Rogers but some of the pigs ran back.

Mrs. Alexander Bertain of High Street, grand deputy of Clan Auxiliary 37 of Beverly, inspected the auxiliary last night.

George M. Collins Jr., of Avon Street, took part Monday and Tuesday evenings in an entertainment at Reading.

One hundred and twelve young people visited the Junior Room in the Memorial Hall Library on Monday and Tuesday afternoon and evening. Each one signed their name in the guest book and was admitted to the room after he or she had voted for their favorite book. The most popular book was "Little Women."

Remaining tickets are being sold in Mrs. Cannon's office in the Administration Building at the Academy for the pair of programs to be given by Argentina, the great Spanish dancer, on Dec. 9, and Efreim Zimbalist, the noted violinist, who comes here on Feb. 28. Argentina's appearance here follows the great dancer's program in New York City and immediately precedes her engagement in Symphony Hall, Boston.

Officer David Gillespie of Cuba Street has been ill at his home this week.

A three-inch fall of snow accompanied by a high wind and a drop in temperature, blanketed Andover on Sunday, making travel conditions hazardous. Yesterday's warm weather saw a good part of the snow disappear.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Avery Gould of Phillips Street left Tuesday for Florida, where they will spend the winter months.

50 Years Ago — 1955

The regular meeting of the Ballardvale PTA will be held tonight in the Bradlee School at 8 o'clock. Each person attend-

ing is asked to bring a toy marketed for a girl or boy.

Miss Marjorie Davis of Tewksbury and Miss Leslie Perkins of Wakefield have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Frank Orlando of Maryland Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Connolly and daughter Catherine and Patrick Regan of Maryland Street were the holiday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wade and family of Lawrence.

The following teams will bowl Wednesday, Dec. 8: Flying Saucers vs Migs; Jets vs. Atoms; Rockets vs. Meteors and Bombardiers vs. Comets.

Alan Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alco Taylor of Hall Avenue, entertained a group of his friends at a luncheon at his home last Friday in honor of his 10th birthday. Following the lunch the boys enjoyed a game of football.

There will be a Union Service in the Union Congregational Church tonight. The Rev. Anthony Perrino of the Methodist Church will preach the sermon "How to live thankfully."

Mrs. Stephanie A. Walent of Oak Street is a patient at the Bon Secours Hospital.

A meeting of the Panther Patrol of Boy Scout Troop 76 was held last Wednesday evening at the home of William Ackerman of Center Street when Scout requirements were worked on. Refreshments were served.

Mrs. May Hatch of Melrose has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Edwin W. Brown of Andover Street.

Miss Beverly Sparks of River Street attended a dancing school convention in Boston recently.

The regular meeting of the Golden Age Circle of the Methodist Church was held last Monday in the vestry with Mrs. Edna Laffin and Mrs. Nellie Hammond hostesses. Mrs. Harry Nelson had charge of devotions and presided at the business meeting.

Ralph Greenwood Sr., of Tewksbury Street, has returned after a 10-day hunting trip in Danbury, N.H. Chester MacMillan of River Street joined him for the weekend.

25 Years Ago — 1980

A Western Night will be held Saturday, Nov. 30 at 8 p.m. at the Moose Lodge, North Street, North Reading. Western attire is suggested, prizes will be offered, and there will be a cash bar. Music will be provided by Country Ltd. This event is sponsored by Harold Parker State Forest Concerned Citizens and proceeds will be used in furthering the objectives of the group to ensure that the Harold Parker State Forest will continue to be available for the enjoyment of the public.

Janet O'Keefe has been appointed a counselor in the division of continuing education and community services at

Northern Essex Community College. She has worked since 1979 counseling students in the school's occupational skills center and has been involved with youth enrichment school training program.

Home Health Foundation VNA, which serves the Lawrence-Haverhill metropolitan area, is offering free baby-care clinics to residents of Lawrence and surrounding communities at Arlington Park Apartments Community Room. The clinics will run from 6:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Pickwick Theater is presenting *Puppets of La Mancha* this Nov. 24 at 2 p.m. at the Reading High School Auditorium.

Advertisement: Dr. Kenneth M. Leavitt, a podiatric physician and surgeon, offers complete medical and surgical care of the foot and ankle structures; 24-hour emergency service and home visitation for the unstable provided.

10 Years Ago — 1995

Andover Trails Committee will meet Tuesday, Nov. 21 to discuss the trails project and Shawheen River Greenway, at Town Offices.

A Concert of Prayer, presented by Andover Baptist Church and other area churches, will be held at Andover Baptist Church, 7 Central St., at 6 p.m.

Harold R. Gillam, of Holt Road, has been notified of his award to the rank of Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America. He is a member of Troop 75 and Shingebis Lodge, Order of the Arrow. He also attended the National Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort A. P. Hill, Va.

Five students of local ceramics teacher Virginia Orlando won ribbons at the 28th annual New England Ceramic League held Oct. 11-13. Each of the more than 500 entries had to be sponsored by a New England Ceramic League member and was judged by the strict rules set down by the NECL.

The Andover Historical Society invites the public to the grand opening of its new tour of the Amos Blanchard House, 97 Main St., on Thursday at 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Dr. Bette Pratt, consultant in historical interpretation, will begin the evening by briefly setting the scene. She will highlight the political, economic and social aspects of life in the early 19th century when Amos Blanchard built his imposing white house on what was then the old Essex Turnpike.

More than a dozen people, who simply care about their community, got together last week and over the weekend to maintain and improve the picturesque scene of Ballardvale Village. Working as a group, people from the Ballardvale Village Improvement Society took time to paint, rake, cut and plant.

— Compiled by WHAT'S UP contributor Sara Brown

BACK IN TIME



Chris Cordima, a 1999 graduate of Andover High School, will return to Andover on Tuesday, Nov. 29, at 3:30 p.m., wearing his Union Army uniform. Cordima will recreate the average soldier's Civil War experiences in a program on "Andover During the Civil War," for a professional development course on the History of Andover, offered to teachers by the Andover Historical Society and the Andover Public Schools. His program at Memorial Hall Library will be open to the public, free of charge. See SOCIAL NOTEBOOK, page 18, for more information, or call the Andover Historical Society at 978-475-2236.

Program on Medicare Part D at St. Robert's

SHINE, the division of Elder Services of Merrimack Valley that provides health-care information to seniors, will present a 30- to 45-minute program explaining Medicare Part D at St. Robert Belarmine Parish this Sunday, Nov. 27 after the 11 a.m. Mass.

This new program starts Jan. 1 and will offer most people eligible for Medicare an opportunity to save on the cost of their prescription drugs, organizers said.

The presentation will be held in Driscoll Hall, beneath the Church, and should begin about 12:15.

A light lunch and other refreshments will be served.

Call the parish office at 978-683-8922 to RSVP.

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Sports

2005 MIAA Girls State Division 1 Meet

Making a 7th splash

Another crown for Lady Warriors

By Rick Harrison

7th Heaven ... Jessica Biel was nowhere to be seen – but Caitlin Doherty and a whole host of other contributors were definitely in atten-

dance.

Multi-time state champ Doherty was a double individual event winner as the incomparable Andover High girls swim and dive team once again owned the water – leaving all contenders and pretenders to the throne in its wake at the 2005 MIAA Girls State Division 1 Championship Meet held at Harvard University's Blodgett Pool in Cambridge.

The Lady Warriors' remarkable reign – their stranglehold on Massachusetts high school swimming – has been extended to seven years.

And they're already thinking "8 would be great."

Andover swimmers and divers have ruled the Bay State roost since 1999, beating everyone for the first five years and winning two Division 1 crowns after the field was split last fall.

Both last year and this the Lady Warriors were clearly better than the Division 2 champ – which this fall is Notre Dame Academy of Hingham.

The last time Andover wasn't the best team in the state – this year's freshmen were barely in elementary school.

Boston College coaches must have been smiling as Doherty wrapped up her illust-



Caitlin Doherty of Andover won the 100 yard butterfly swim in the MIAA Girls State Swimming and Diving Championship. The AHS senior earned four more gold medals, including two in relay races.



Coach Marilyn Fitzgerald celebrates a seventh straight girls swimming state championship.

rious AHS career by picking up four more gold medals, including two in relay races, to ignite the Lady Warriors to their latest overpowering team triumph.

It was business as usual – standard operating procedure – as AHS chalked up 340.5 points to nearly double the 172.5 total of runner-up and Merrimack Valley Conference archrival Chelmsford.

Only four schools in the 21-team field scored more than 100 points, the other two Acton-Boxboro at 161 and Reading 137.

The 168-point winning margin was not the widest during the lengthy AHS streak – but it was plenty wide enough.

The point total was also not the highest – but it was plenty high enough.

Joining Doherty in the winner's circle were Candice Peak and Kristi Korsberg.

Head coach Marilyn Fitzgerald's seven-time titlists also picked up a bushel of points – the maximum 96 – by again sweeping to first place in all three relays.

Seniors

Seniors who have participated in their final meet for Andover – and will graduate without ever tasting defeat – are Caitlin Doherty, Candice Peak, Jen McDonald, Rita Gillan, Capt. Michelle Guy, Capt. Danielle Perry, Amy Kasparian, Gabi Barnettler and Amanda Trerotola.

Banquet

The annual team banquet celebration will be Monday, Dec. 5 from 5 to 9 p.m. at Old Town Hall.

All-Conference

As expected, the Lady Warriors again dominated the Merrimack Valley All-Conference team with seven of the 16 honorees from Andover.

Those named are senior Caitlin Doherty, senior Candice Peak, junior Tiffany Petzold, sophomore Ellen Cody, sophomore

Kristi Korsberg, junior Erin McAnultie and sophomore Melissa Alvas.

Seven others were named MVC Division 1 All-Stars – a group consisting of senior Jen McDonald, junior Jen Geary, junior Cassandra Valler, junior Jenny Meltz, sophomore Ginny Gibson, sophomore Allison Alwan and freshman diver Katie O'Connell.

Doherty dominates

Doherty, one of four Andover swimmers to post state-meet qualifying times in all eight individual swim events, once again destroyed the competition in both her races.

She repeated as state 100 butterfly champion by more than two seconds and captured the 200 IM by a whopping five seconds.

Her 57.23 clocking in the 100 fly eclipsed her own winning time of 57.75 from last fall, while topping runner-up Laura Moriarty of Methuen easily (59.29).

Continued on page 14

No place like home

Thanksgiving Day: Warriors host 5th straight game

By Rick Harrison

The Andover High varsity football team hopes to finish its 2005 season in style tomorrow morning when it hosts Central Catholic in the traditional Thanksgiving Day game at Lovely Field.

Every team that wins on Turkey Day feels its season has been a success – and a victory is especially sweet for the seniors who want to go out on a high note in their final high school game.

For Andover and Central – tomorrow is their bowl game.

The AHS-CCHS showdown, originally scheduled for Veterans Stadium in Lawrence, was switched to Andover because Veterans is being renovated and was not ready in time.

It will be the Golden Warriors fifth straight home game.

The 10:30 a.m. kickoff, a half-hour later than most other area contests, is to allow people watching or competing in the annual Feaster Five Road Race to also attend the football game.

Head coach Ken Maglio's squad enters with a 4-6 overall record and 2-5 mark in the Merrimack Valley Conference.

The ledger is somewhat deceptive because the Golden Warriors have been riddled with injuries all season – many to top two-way starters.

The locals finally got healthy in late October, and responded by winning two of their last three games.

Fourth-quarter comebacks keyed back-to-back victories over Methuen, 37-26, and Haverhill, 21-14, as AHS erupted for 19 points in the final 11 minutes against the Rangers and scored in the final minute of play to overtake the Hillies.

In the most recent game, a 39-29 loss to Chelmsford, the Golden Warriors almost erased a 32-9 deficit with 20 unanswered points in the final period.

Andover registered earlier non-league wins over Lincoln-Sudbury, 24-7, and St.

Bernard's of Fitchburg, 21-7.

The toughest loss came in the season opener to North Andover, 20-14 in overtime, and the Scarlet Knights have gone on to win every game since and enter Thanksgiving with a perfect 10-0 record.

The Farnham legacy

Carrying on in the grand tradition of his father and uncles, senior wide receiver/defensive back Buddy Farnham will close out a storied four-year AHS career as the leading receiver in school history and a top scorer.

The 2004 MVC Most Valuable Player enters his final game with 154 career receptions for more than 2,000 yards and 21 touchdowns.

The acrobatic and versatile three-sport athlete (lacrosse/track) has 196 points overall, and needs just four to reach 200 for his memorable AHS tenure.

His team-high 82 points this fall are the most for an Andover player since Chris Callison scored 94 in 2001.

It also ties for the fourth highest point total since 1980. If Farnham can score 18 points tomorrow he will become the first AHS player in more than three decades to reach the 100-point mark in a single season.

The 82 points include 13 TDs, 8 on pass receptions, a two-point conversion and last week's interception and 103-yard return of an attempted conversion pass by Chelmsford.

In 10 games this fall Farnham has snagged 52 passes for 824 yards.

He also has seven pass interceptions this fall – including four in the last three games – and 10 over the past two years.

All of this year's achievements came despite a leg injury that sidelined Farnham for all or parts of four games.

"Farnham is a pain in the neck to defend against," said Central head coach Chuck Adamopoulos. "You have to know where he is at all times. If you don't keep an eye on him – he'll burn you."

Quarterbacks Tom White, a senior, and Mike Pierce, a sophomore, have combined to toss 10 TD passes with White boasting six and Pierce four.

Both have also taken turns sitting out with injuries.

In eight starts, White has completed 57-of-127 passes for 967 yards and six touchdowns.

White also has 36 points and Pierce 12.

Running backs Jeff Belardo (24 points) and Mike D'Angelo (14 points), a combined 400 pounds of ground turbulence, have also gotten healthy and played well over the last month.

Junior placekicker Ken Masse could be the difference in a close game. He has 43 career PAT kicks, including 17 this season, and eight field goals (two in 2005) the last two years.

Defensively the locals, who have been outscored 264-215, are led by White, Farnham and alternating linebackers Dan Vining, D'Angelo, Chris Fiorentino, Jake Stamas, Sam Clark and Jon Crush.

Central sizzling

The Raiders come into this one playing well – having won three straight and five of their last six.

During that second-half stretch they have outscored the opposition, 125-72.

Coach Adamopoulos' crew is 5-4 overall, the most recent victory 29-10 over winless Methuen in a makeup game last Friday night.

Prior to that CCHS edged Tewksbury, 10-7, with the difference a 29 yard third-quarter field goal by placekicker Colin Burkhardt that hugged the right upright and just snuck over the crossbar.

Sophomore running back Mike Leavitt has blossomed recently for Central – and he enters tomorrow's game with team highs of 12 TDs, 72 points and 969 yards rushing on 138 carries.

Leavitt has put together four straight 100-plus rushing games, including a 122-yard effort on 25 carries against Tewksbury, a 200-plus performance versus Haverhill and a 126-yard, three-TD effort against Methuen.

After opening the season with three straight losses, Central defeated Dracut (36-22), Haverhill (12-0), New Bedford (25-13), Tewksbury and Methuen.

The only loss over that stretch was to Chelmsford, 20-13, when a potential game-winning TD pass in the closing minutes was wiped out because the receiver was ruled out of bounds (by inches) on the catch.

Other losses were season openers versus two teams currently ranked in the EMass. Coaches Poll, No. 7 St. John's Prep of Danvers (21-0) and No. 12 Billerica (22-15), along with a 35-7 setback to Lowell when Central had five key players out injured.

In addition to Leavitt, Central is led offensively by QB Jason Vega (79 rushes, 479 yards) and running back Anthony Giuffrida (56 carries, 306 yards) with 20 points each.

Mainly a grind-it-out team, CCHS has thrown only one touchdown pass all season.

"Our running game has been going pretty well for the past few games – and the offensive line has improved tremendously



Andover's Sara Kelleher spikes the ball over Barnstable's Carly Newton during Andover's 3-0 loss to Barnstable in the Division I Girls Volleyball State Championship.

They came so close...

By Rick Harrison

"They played their hearts out and enjoyed the ride."

With those words Andover High girls varsity volleyball coach George Sullivan closed the book on the just-finished 2005 season, a magical mystery tour that took the Lady Warriors into uncharted territory.

A trip that went all the way to a first-ever State Division 1 Tournament championship match against undefeated, multi-time titlist Barnstable High.

Barnstable, boasting the premiere girls volleyball program in Massachusetts, entered the final at 23-0 and riding a three-year 73-match win streak.

"Hey, they've got to lose sometime," said Sullivan before the match.

It wasn't this particular time, however, as the Red Raiders fought off a strong Andover first-game challenge and swept the match, 3-0.

Division 1 North champ and Merrimack Valley Conference Division 1 co-champ AHS became victim No. 74 – after sweeping four previous tourney matches, 3-0.

Coach Tom Turco's Barnstable crew – a

volleyball factory and the Andover girls swim team of the Massachusetts high school volleyball world – has now won nine state titles in the last 12 years.

The setback to the dynasty from Cape Cod followed a stunningly easy 3-0 AHS state semifinal romp over previously-undefeated Lincoln-Sudbury (also 23-0).

"When we played Barnstable everyone else (volleyball teams) was watching from the stands," said Sullivan. "That's pretty cool. It's a good feeling to be one of the final two."

Work ethic

Sullivan pointed to this year's team as one of his favorites of all-time – and not just because they went the farthest.

"We've had some great teams and terrific kids over the years," noted the coach. "This was, without doubt, the most harmonious group. I can't remember a single complaint or any bickering by the players all season."

"We (coaches) never had to push them to

Continued on page 15



The season began back in August for head coach Ken Maglio's troops, but Andover High's Warriors hope to cap off their season with a win over Central Catholic in the annual Thanksgiving Day matchup.

Continued on page 15

SWIM & DIVE: GIRLS STATE DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONSHIP

STATE CHAMPIONS - AGAIN

Continued from page 13

It did come up shy of Connie Brown's meet record 55.52 set in 1999.

Earlier in the afternoon Doherty went virtually unchallenged in the 200 individual medley, touching in 2:07.30 while second-place Amanda Cecere was well behind in 2:12.36. The meet record of 2:05.21 was established by Andover's Sally Brown in 2001.

Cecere actually led after the first leg, before Doherty inched ahead at the second turn and showed her superior conditioning by exploding for the convincing victory with 38.53 and 30.17 clockings on the final two legs to account for most of the five-second difference.

Peak performance

Candice Peak also wrapped up her AHS career in memorable style, winning the 100 backstroke as the Lady Warriors again performed the near-impossible with a 1-2-3 finish (41 points) in this race for the second straight week.

Peak set the pace in 59.38, with teammates Tiffany Petzold and Erin McAuliffe waging a friendly battle for second before touching an eye-blink apart at 1:01.31 and 1:01.35 respectively.

Peak was the swiftest swimmer on both legs with 29.11 and 30.27 clockings.

Junior Kerry Gaj also scored in this race with 10th in 1:05.57.

Peak added a third place in the 50

freestyle, where her 24.80 performance was a shade behind 1-2 finishers Amy O'Brien of Lexington (24.55) and Katie Omstead of Acton-Boxboro (24.60).

Korsberg crisp

Andover finished tied for first and took third in the 200 free with sophomore Kristi Korsberg at 1:54.74 and sophomore Ellen Cody 1:57.13.

Korsberg's time was identical to meet double winner Katelyn Martin of Chelmsford - both girls earning 14.5 team points for the deadlock.



PHOTOS BY MARIO KRAJEWSKI

The Andover Girls Swimming and Diving Team presents their state championship trophy.

Korsberg enjoyed split-second leads after each of the first three 50-yard legs, but a swift 28.77 final quarter for Martin enabled her to earn the tie.

Sophomore Ginny Gibson added 10th place in 2:03.86, while sophomore Allison Alwan was 11th in 2:04.41.

Korsberg also finished third in the 100 fly (1:00.24), hiking her individual point total for the day to 26.5, and freshman prospect Margot Ryan was 10th in 1:03.77.

The champs again piled up major points in the 500 free, snagging three of the top five places to put 34 more up on the leaderboard.

Chelmsford's Martin, who by-passed that race at the North Sectionals, returned to her specialty at Harvard and broke the coveted 5-minute mark with an impressive 4:59.52 effort.

Sectional champ Cody was second for Andover in 5:08.25, while junior Jenny Meltz placed fourth 5:16.26 and junior Jen

Geary fifth (5:19.26).

Martin's charge was not quite good enough to surpass Sally Brown's daunting state standard of 4:57.54 set in 2001.

The locals had two of the top five finishers in the 100 breaststroke, sophomore Melissa Alois a solid second in 1:08.71 and junior Cassandra Valler fifth in 1:11.60.

Petzold picked up fourth place in the 100 free (54.26), while Geary was a strong fourth (2:16.68), McAuliffe seventh (2:18.96) and Valler 10th (2:20.09) in the 200 IM.

Gibson scored in both of her events after contributing 12th in the 100 free (57.47).

Divers deliver

Once again - for the first time in the history of the AHS girls swim program - all four of diving coach Becky Pierce's qualifiers scored in the meet.

Freshman Katie O'Connell wrapped up

an outstanding rookie campaign, placing sixth in the one-meter competition with 352.55 points.

O'Connell was in second place after the first round (prelims) with 193.00 points.

Junior Jillian Bargar placed eighth with 343.45 points, sophomore Lauren Colby was ninth at 328.35 and senior Capt. Michelle Guy 11th at 307.80.

Chelmsford's Rachael Martinez is the Division 1 state diving champ after piling up 421.50 points to best the runner-up by a convincing 41 points.

Relayers reign

On the relay front, the 200 free crew was the only one seriously challenged as the foursome of Cody, Korsberg, Petzold and Peak touched in 1:41.00 to nudge second-place Chelmsford (1:41.09) by less than 1/10th of a second.

Third-place Acton-Boxboro (1:41.64) jumped to the early lead, but a 25.20 third leg by Petzold put AHS ahead to stay before a blistering 24.11 in the final 50 by anchor Peak sealed the micro-second victory.

The 200 medley quartet of McAuliffe, Alois, Doherty and McDonald beat Reading by almost three seconds in 1:54.03, capturing the first race of the day to get Andover off and flying.

The 400 free squad of Korsberg, Petzold, Peak and Doherty topped runner-up Chelmsford by a full 2½ seconds in 3:38.77.

Korsberg gave the champs the lead by more than a second after the opening 100, and Peak's 53.93 clocking on the third leg left anchor Doherty in great shape as she brought home the stylish triumph (54.09 leg) in the final race of the meet.

So close

Senior Rita Gillan barely missed scoring in the 100 fly (by 29/100ths of a second), finishing 13th in 1:04.33.

Alwan did the same in the 500 free (13th, 5:34.30), sophomore Bridget Carroll was 14th in the 100 breast (1:15.95) and McDonald placed 16th in the 50 free (26.40).



Andover fans celebrate the State Championship victory at Harvard University's Blodgett Pool.

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GIRLS STATE DIVISION 1 VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

TOUGH LOSS IN FINAL

Continued from page 13

do more. They always wanted to work even harder.

"They were together as a team from the start and became even closer as the season went along," added Sullivan.

Capt. Jen Merinder, Sam Kerivan and Kelly O'Dea get much of the credit for that.

Banquet

The team banquet was originally scheduled for last Thursday (Nov. 17), but had to be postponed because of the tournament run.

It was changed to next Monday at Andover Country Club.

Several major team awards will be presented and the 2006 captains will be announced.

All-Scholastic

The latest of many honors for MVC Division 1 co-Player of the Year Sam Kerivan was being named an All-Scholastic earlier this week.

Season leaders

For the complete 25-match season, Andover finished with 729 kills, 247 service aces, an 80 percent hitting average, 90 percent serving average and 79 percent passing average.

Tops on the team in kills were Sam Kerivan with 234, Jen Merinder 147 and Sara Kelleher 94.

Merinder had 69 aces, Allie Navarro 67 and Kelly O'Dea 35.

Merinder also had the top passing percentage (.890), followed by Navarro (.820) and Meghan

Bus breaks down

Adding a bit of insult to injury after the State Tournament title match loss to Barnstable – the bus carrying the Andover High girls volleyball players and coaches broke down on Route 290 on the way home from Hudson.

"It stalled, started up and then stalled again," said coach Sullivan.

After a time a state police cruiser stopped and pulled in behind the bus for safety.

Another bus was called and – roughly two hours later – the somewhat-frustrated AHS contingent was back on the road.

"We originally were going to have a (Andover town) police escort lead us from the 495 off-ramp to the high school," said Sullivan. "But because of the problems we never made the call to the Andover station and it didn't happen."

The Andover group finally pulled into the AHS driveway at about 10:20 p.m.

The mishap didn't spoil the party to celebrate the overall season's success, however, as the players gathered at the Merinder home and the coaches headed to Applebee's for a late-night dinner.

Thomann (.780).

Stats & Stuff

• Coach Sullivan finished the season with a flashy career won-lost record of 284-132.

• The Lady Warriors, who qualified for the Division 1 North Tournament for the 18th time in the last 20 years, closed at 20-5 and posted 18 of their 20 wins by 3-0 whitewashes.

• This is the third 20-win season for Andover girls volleyball.

The Lady Warriors were 22-1 on the way to the North semifinals in 1999, and 20-3 the following year when they reached the sectional semis again. AHS went 19-3 in both 1998 and 2003 while advancing to the North final.

• This was the third time Andover and Barnstable met in girls volleyball.

The first two matches were in the regular season, Barnstable winning 2-1 at the Dunn Gym in 2001 and 2-0 on Cape Cod in 2002.

• The composite won-lost record for the nine AHS varsity teams this fall is 94-35-12, with only the Thanksgiving Day football game left.

Seniors

The Lady Warriors will have some major holes to fill in 2006.

Seniors playing their last match for Andover, after leading the team to a 57-14 record the past three years, are Capt. Samantha Kerivan, Capt. Jen Merinder, Capt. Kelly O'Dea, Sara Kelleher, Andrea Kurkul, Ashley Ahern, Kasey O'Dea and Kerry Hill.

Kerivan, Merinder, Ahern and Kelly O'Dea were four-year varsity players, also seeing some court time as freshmen in 2002.

STATE DIVISION 1 TOURNAMENT

SEMIFINAL MATCH

Andover 3

Lincoln-Sudbury 0

Operating like a well-oiled machine, the Lady Warriors shrugged off the inherent pressure of a state semifinal match and rolled to a 25-13, 25-22, 25-16 sweep of previously-undefeated L-S at the neutral Westford Academy court.

"Before we left for Westford I pulled out the boys trophy from the State Tournament in 1995 and showed it to the girls," said Sullivan. "I told them it's been 10 years and now it's time for us (girls team). 'This is what it's all about. They had a chance to go farther than any team before them in the annals of Andover High volleyball.'"

The AHS boys finished 22-2 a decade ago, advancing to the state final where they dropped a 3-0 decision to New Bedford.

But – to get the opportunity to take that potential step into history – the Lady Warriors first had to beat Lincoln-Sudbury.

"We dominated at the beginning (L-S)," said Sullivan. "We had another big night at the (service) line. We only had one bad serve – which made it just five bad serves over three tournament matches."

"And, just like the Lawrence match (Sat. North final win), we blocked very well. Lincoln-Sudbury tried to adjust – but in doing so they gave us the short middle and back side of the court."

The AHS players, led by Andrea Kurkul, exploited those openings.

"Once again it showed what a smart player Andrea is," said Sullivan. "She didn't hit the ball hard – she concentrated on hitting it to the open spots."

"At other times we drove them back by slamming the ball – and when they retreated it allowed us to score on short tips."

The only lapses came in the second game and early in the third.

The middle game went back-and-forth until AHS tied it 13-13 and slowly pulled away for the three-point (25-22) win.

"At times we passed poorly," explained Sullivan. "We stopped stepping through the ball and stood there flat-footed. But, eventually, we got back in the groove."

L-S jumped ahead 4-0 in the third game, but AHS went on a 6-2 run to tie it 6-6 before out-pointing the Central/West champs 19-10 to close out the match.

Kerivan kills

Middle hitter Samantha Kerivan finished with a match-high 14 kills, 22-for-28 hitting, one ace, 11-for-11 serving and 28-for-36 passing.

"Lincoln-Sudbury went after Samantha – right at her – and I expect Barnstable will do the same thing," said Sullivan.

Outside hitter Jen Merinder was close behind with nine kills, 16-for-18 hitting, two aces, 14-for-15 serving and 23-for-30 passing.

Kurkul contributed five kills, 15-for-15 hitting and 10-for-11 passing.

Sara Kelleher (14-for-14 hitting) and Heather

Arvidson (8-for-12 added four kill-seats, while Kelleher was also 4-for-4 passing).

Setter Kelly O'Dea was 7-for-11 hitting and 7-for-7 serving, with two kills, one ace and she also went 19-for-25 passing.

"Kelly is our rising player," said Sullivan. "The hitters set all those kills because she put the ball in perfect position for that."

Allie Navarro was 11-for-15 serving, with two aces, and 35-for-44 passing.

Meghan Thomann registered a perfect 18-for-18 serving, with one ace, and sent 11 for 13 passing.

Ashley Ahern was an error-free 1-for-1 serving.

After the match, the O'Deas hosted a pizza party for the victorious Lady Warriors.

As a team, Andover was 83 for 100 hitting (83.6 percent) with 55 kills, 68 for 79 serving (86.6 percent) with seven aces and 142 for 136 passing (175 percent).

Lincoln-Sudbury finished the season with a 19-3 record, losing to Andover in the sectional final. L-S, which also entered with a 19-3 record, swept Coastal Worcester Doherty, regional sectional final, after whitewashing Melrose and Algonquin Regional of Northborough.

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

Barnstable 3

Andover 0

The underdog story finally came to an end at Hudson. Here, as the ultra-talented Barnstable squad, led by a 25-21, 25-14, 25-10 decision, before a packed house.

It was the first time in 25 matches the Lady Warriors had been swept.

It wasn't quite as easy as the scores indicate, however.

There were many long volleys, and AHS had seven aces in the first game.

The final AHS advantage came at 20-18, after a Jen Merinder kill, before the Cape Codder went on a 4-run, to close out the opener.

"The Barnstable kids play volleyball all the time," said Sullivan. "Their middle school and high school are under the same roof, so their coach (Barnstable native Tom Lurco) can get their girls started in the 6th grade and make sure they stay with it."

"They have four legitimate Division 1 college prospects on the team. We had them scouted pretty well – thanks to some information from other coaches and from watching them in person, when they beat North Quincy (3-0) in the state semifinals the night before we played Lincoln-Sudbury," said Sullivan.

"Barnstable is very strong in the middle and their setter is 6'2" and talented. But we still had them on the run for awhile in the first game. I think they even started to panic a little."

At one juncture coach Turco jumped up, ripped off his tie and was prowling the sidelines.

"But at 20-18 we made a couple of errors and the girls seemed to lose confidence at that point. Like sand in an hour glass you could see it slipping away," said Sullivan. "After winning the first game – the Barnstable girls had their smiles on."

We know the coach at North Quincy and they did it the way. His idea is to keep passing, moving the ball around and wear her down. It's her team's strategy, but getting tired."

Merinder said she was supposedly tired, but she was not.

Merinder said she was exhausted, but she was not.

Serving pivotal

Setting the ball in motion and passing were the key to Andover's early success, but it was the serving that was the key to their victory.

Andover's serving was the key to their victory. They served 18 aces in the first game and 11 in the second.

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FOOTBALL

THANKSGIVING DAY GAME

Continued from page 13

As the season has gone along," said Adamopoulos.

"We have a chunk of sophomores and juniors getting a lot of playing time – and they keep improving."

"When we were 0-3 the seniors kind of made it their goal to bounce back and finish the season with a winning record. So far we're on pace – but we have to beat Andover to accomplish it. That's the goal."

Series stuff

Central has dominated the series over the years.

Although Andover beat Central 22-13 last year, for its 10th win of the season, the Raiders captured six of the previous seven, 11 of 13 and 14 of 18 Thanksgiving Day games since 1987.

During the Golden Warriors' school-record 40-game unbeaten stretch in the mid-1970s, the lone blemish (39-0-1) was a mud-slicked 6-6 Turkey Day tie with Central.

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Education

ON CAMPUS

Lifelong learner

AFE's Fitzgerald to be honored Friday, Dec. 2

By Rita Savard

Whether he's discussing philosophy or how corn flakes are made, Fred Fitzgerald's animated gestures seem to mimic the fascination and awe of a teenager.

At 92, Fitzgerald's high school days are long behind him, but his enthusiasm for learning is not.

"Everything I pick up, I want to know how it was made, who made it and what was their story," he says. "I like to know how things tick."

Since 1990, Fitzgerald has shared his "yearning for learning" with more than 15,000 students by incorporating the Andover Fund for Education (AFE). Now in its 15th year, the AFE has given grants to hundreds of teachers in each of the town's 10 schools to begin innovative class projects. Next Friday, Dec. 2, the AFE is extending a townwide invitation to Andover residents and educators to join in honoring Fitzgerald's commitment to the schools.

A former member of the Andover Finance and School committees, Fitzgerald says the idea of starting a fund for schools stemmed from a news story.

"I read an article about

Harvard expecting to raise \$6.5 million for education and thought, why can't Andover do something like this too?" says Fitzgerald.

Soon after, the AFE was born. While Fitzgerald says the breadth of AFE's budget is nowhere near the size of Harvard's, donations from residents, local businesses and fundraising events have enabled teachers to turn creative ideas into tangible lesson plans with annual grants from \$500 to \$1,000 each.

Covering all grade levels from kindergarten through high school, money from the AFE has helped sponsor unique approaches to enhancing core curriculum such as collecting

and analyzing water samples from Fish Brook, studying weather patterns and making marshmallow catapults. One project involved international correspondence via a traveling bear.

"Fred's love for education has really transformed into something very special for Andover," says Kate Margolese, AFE board member. "He has a grandiose vision that is so inspiring, yet he is very hands-on and appreciative of the simple things in life. It's a combination that makes progress happen."

AFE-funded projects have also touched students' lives beyond Andover, including classrooms elsewhere in Massa-



"I like to know how things tick."

FRED FITZGERALD, FOUNDER OF THE ANDOVER FUND FOR EDUCATION

chusetts and on other continents.

The adventures of Benny the Bancroft Bear is a prime example of the kind of creative and hands-on learning that AFE supports, says Jim McConaughy, AFE president.

"Benny the Bear would travel the world and was adopted by students wherever he went," laughs McConaughy. "He became an ambassador of good will to the community. He'd end up in Germany or take a trip to the opera and kids (in other communities) had to entertain Benny and account for his whereabouts. Bancroft students would write and send questions about Benny. It established a reason to communicate with other students, learn about geography, culture and writing."

High Plain Elementary Principal Brenda O'Brien says the AFE has been instrumental in enabling teachers at her school to take in-class learning to new levels. A pen-pal exchange with Lawrence students, puppetry

and fine arts, and cooking classes have all been introduced into the High Plain curriculum through AFE grants.

"I feel a strong allegiance, enthusiasm and honor for Fred Fitzgerald and everything the Andover Fund for Education has done for the town's schools," says O'Brien. "As a newer school in Andover, (AFE) has allowed us to bring in so many new programs that have now become a part of our traditions."

Over the years, Fitzgerald has passed on the presidential torch to other AFE board members. But he still plays an active role in the AFE, says Margolese, and religiously attends the board's meetings.

"Throughout my life I've had an overriding concern to be a good citizen and to live in peace and harmony with my fellow man," Fitzgerald says. "I've been very fortunate. The goodness in people, and being surrounded by such a bright and enthusiastic group of thinkers, has made my work much easier."

In addition to bringing new educational opportunities to hundreds of Andover students, the AFE has also offered a \$1,000 scholarship to an Andover High graduating senior for the past six years. The Fred Fitzgerald Scholarship is awarded to a student who exemplifies the AFE founder's lust for learning.

Looking ahead, Fitzgerald is hopeful that the AFE will grow stronger with the community's help and continue to support Andover's students each year.

"Every young person deserves a fair and equal chance for a quality education, and people can help make all the difference," Fitzgerald says. "One of the lovely phrases of our world is random acts of kindness. I believe the world is infested with them."

The celebration in honor of Fred Fitzgerald will be held at Memorial Hall Library, Friday, Dec. 2 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.



Fred Fitzgerald, at home with his wife, Elizabeth, believes in providing opportunities for young people to learn about the world around them.

Katherine Arrigg Koh enrolled at Harvard College this fall.

Koh, who graduated from Phillips Academy, is the daughter of Claudia A. Arrigg, MD and Howard K. Koh, MD of Andover.

Koh joined approximately 1,650 students in Harvard's freshman class.

Jessica Leider of Andover was among the 400 students who participated in the Goon Squad this August as part of "Syracuse Welcome 2005: A Slice of SU Life," the University's orientation program for new students.

Leider is a junior in the School of Education.

Established in the 1940s by Syracuse University students to spread school spirit and help incoming freshmen adjust to college life, the Goon Squad consists of volunteer upperclassmen who assist new students and their parents as they move into residence halls and at other events throughout the orientation program.

In addition to unpacking vehicles and moving new students in, Goon Squad members answer questions and provide campus directions to new students and their families throughout the Syracuse Welcome program.

As a top student at Andover High School, Gabe Greeley of Andover had his pick of the nation's top colleges. But he decided not just to attend college, but to help build one.

With a full-tuition scholarship valued at more than \$130,000, Greeley joined 76 other students from around the country this fall to form the fourth freshmen class at the Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering in Needham.

Olin College is a new undergraduate engineering college offering an innovative curriculum that aims to produce technological leaders. Olin's approach to engineering education incorporates entrepreneurship as well as the arts, humanities and social sciences.

Olin selected Greeley through a personalized admission process. He was chosen from an applicant pool of nearly 600 students. Greeley's academic and extracurricular credentials stood out among the applications. As a member of Olin's fourth freshman class, he will have the opportunity to help shape the culture, curriculum and programs of the still-developing college.

Caryn Espy of Andover, a freshman management studies major in Syracuse University's Martin J. Whitman

Continued on page 17



Use of plasticware at Andover High will be regulated differently, now that a 5-cent charge has been reversed.

Spoon fee knifed

Plastic no longer costs five cents at AHS

By Colin Steele

Stick a fork in it. Andover High School's 5-cent utensil fee is done.

As reported in the *Townsmen* last week, the school's cafeteria has been charging students who do not buy a school lunch a nickel if they want to use plastic forks, spoons and knives.

Food Services Director Karen Pappa instituted the charge for students who brought their own lunches, saying the brown-baggers were taking more utensils than they needed, to the point where it affected her budget.

"We've reconsidered, and we're going to find other ways to manage this situation," Schools Business Manager Evan Katz said. "This can't be part of the solution."

The nickel charge had drawn criticism as yet another fee to supplement the school department's \$51 million budget. Surprised to learn of this fee,

school officials put a stop to it at the end of week.

"I have all the respect in the world for Karen (Pappa) because she's trying to balance her books," said School Committee member Art Barber. "But where this affects students and is a public-type issue, I think we probably should have been made aware."

Juniors James Gaffney and Kyla Guidoboni denied that students were being wasteful with the utensils.

"How do you take too many plastic spoons?" Guidoboni asked.

She recalled one time in the cafeteria when she couldn't eat the yogurt she'd brought from home because she didn't have 5 cents to buy a spoon.

"Basically, I didn't have lunch because I didn't have a spoon," she said.

Gaffney agreed it was a good move to eliminate the charge, especially as utensils become more of a cafeteria necessity.

"They're making a move away from finger food," Gaffney said. "What else are we supposed to do?"

Katz spoke with Pappa and Superintendent Claudia Bach before deciding to eliminate the charge, he said.

Pappa said previously her budget for plasticware was "at least a couple hundred dollars a year."

Although the Food Services Department is more independent than most, the School Committee still has the final say on lunch prices. Katz wasn't sure if the committee should have been asked to approve the cutlery fee.

School Committee Chairwoman Deb Silberstein did not know either.

"There should be a policy that addresses how that decision gets made," she said. "I'm not sure that there is a policy, and there probably should be one if there isn't."

School Committee member Tony James said that school fees in general are subject to approval by the school, although he said it was "debatable" if the spoon charge could be considered a fee.

Greta Cuyler contributed to this article.

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ON CAMPUS

■ CARYN ESPY

Continued from page 16

School of Management, is a member of the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) organization at SU.

SIFE is a non-profit organization that gives students the tools to learn the free enterprise system in a real working situation. SIFE challenges students to take what they are learning in

the classroom and use their knowledge to better their communities. Guided by faculty advisers, teams establish a variety of community outreach programs that often involve help-

ing others with such concepts as budgeting, accounting and supply and demand. SIFE members help budding entrepreneurs get their plans off the ground and mentor at-risk youth.

HEAD OF THE CLASS



In its 11th year, last week's Community Read-Along is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Andover/North Andover to promote a sense of community and to share the importance of books and reading. This year's readers included longtime town moderator Jim Doherty, who talked with fifth-graders at South School last Friday after reading from his book, *Andover As I Remember It*.

SCHOOL MENUS

Here's what's for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, Nov. 28 to Dec. 2:

Elementary schools

Monday: Pizza stick with soft pretzel, pasta with meat sauce, fresh baked pizza slice, chicken caesar salad, fruit and veggie.

Tuesday: Veggie burger with fries, baked chicken nuggets, chocolate chip pancakes with sausage, bagels and string, lucky tray, fruit and veggie.

Wednesday: Pizza burger with fries, chicken nuggets with french fries, fresh baked pizza slice, chicken teriyaki wrap, fruit and veggie.

Thursday: Beef-filled raviolis with garlic bread, chocolate chip pancakes with ham sticks, hot dog with oven-baked fries, milk, fruit and veggie.

Friday: Cheeseburger with oven-baked fries, baked chicken nuggets with mashed potatoes, fresh baked pizza slice, boxed breakfast, jello with whipped topping, milk, fruit and veggie.

Thursday: Cheeseburger with fries, french toast and sausages, chicken cacciatore, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Chicken tomato bake, chicken caesar salad with whole grain roll, stuffed crust pizza, lucky tray, fruit, veggie and milk.

Andover High School

Monday: Chicken McSchool, stuffed crust pizza, chicken, broccoli and ziti, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Fish-and-chips, stuffed crust pizza, rotini and meat sauce, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: Rib-b-ques over rice, stuffed crust pizza, chicken parm sandwich, fruit, veggie and milk.

Thursday: Two breakfast sandwiches with potato, stuffed crust pizza, chicken, broccoli and pasta, fruit, veggie and milk.

Friday: Two tacos with salsa and white rice, stuffed crust pizza, chicken cacciatore, fruit, veggie and milk.

Middle schools

Monday: Two tacos with salsa and rice, two hot dogs with chips, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Tuesday: Two sausage and egg breakfast sandwiches, spaghetti and meatballs, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Wednesday: Roast pork dinner, chicken caesar salad with wheat roll, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

Premium lunch choices are served daily at the middle schools and Andover High. AHS also offers a Courtyard Barbecue featuring grilled food: the Collins Center Café: Pastabilities; and a Market Basket cart with other food choices daily.

For prices or other information about lunches, call Karen Pappa, food services director, at 978-623-8622.

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FIRST BIRTHDAYS



Sophia Clifford Comparato

Elizabeth Anna Comparato

Sophia Clifford Comparato and Elizabeth Anna Comparato will celebrate their first birthday Nov. 26. They are the twin daughters of Chris and Christina Comparato of South Hamilton. Chris is formerly of Andover. Grandparents are Tom and Josephine Comparato of North Andover, and Gail Clifford of Manchester. Both girls, along with their sister Carly, 5, send hugs and kisses out to all of their aunts, uncles and cousins in Andover.



Grady William Dougherty

Grady William Dougherty, son of Christopher and Kelly Dougherty of York Street, turned 1 on Nov. 10. Grandparents are Bill and Jill Walsh of Highland Road, and Mary Dougherty of South Berwick, Maine. Grady is adored by his parents, big brother Aidan, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. Grady enjoys eating everything, waving hi and bye, climbing stairs, and playing with his brother.



Evie Jane O'Brien

Evie Jane O'Brien turned 1 on Nov. 19. She is the daughter of James and Maura O'Brien of High Plain Road. Grandparents are James and Eleanor Foley of Tyngsboro, and JoAnn O'Brien of Lowell. Evie enjoys playing with her big brother, Reilly, 3, and her big sister, Rory Grace, 5. She has recently discovered a new friend named Elmo.



Brynn Catherine McElligott

Brynn Catherine McElligott turned 1 on Nov. 3. She is the daughter of Steven and Stephanie (Chechik) McElligott of Westford. Grandparents are Howard and Paula Chechik of North Chelmsford (formerly of Andover), and David and Judith McElligott of Arlington. Brynn enjoys playing with her dog "Sophie" and all her cousins. She loves her books.



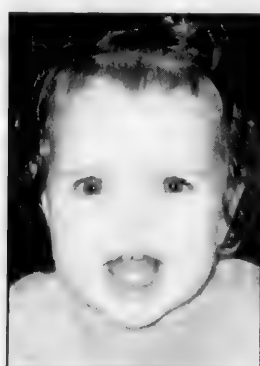
Paul James Durant III

Paul James "Trey" Durant III turned 1 on Nov. 18. He is the son of Kelly and Paul Durant Jr. of Alonesos Way. His grandparents are Mary and Paul Durant of Gemini Circle, and Marjorie and Michael Miskell of Falmouth. His great-grandparents are Irene and Jack Gamache of Lucerne Drive, Mary Hoyle of Peabody, and Helena Czarnecki of Lawrence. Trey is a very happy boy who loves to laugh, go for long walks and play outside.



Matthew Richard Heidt

Matthew Richard Heidt turned 1 on Nov. 4. He is the son of Robert and Kimberly Heidt of Amesbury. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Richard Heidt of Greenland, N.H., Helen West of Andover, and the late Charles West. Matt loves throwing his ball and playing with his 2-year-old brother, Kyle.



Olivia Anna Reilly

Olivia Anna Reilly turned 1 on Oct. 11. The daughter of Peter and Jennifer Reilly of Chandler Road, she celebrated with family and friends, and particularly loved digging into her cake. Her grandparents are Bob and Anna Ott of Hampstead, N.H., and June Reilly of Bedford, N.H. Olivia enjoys spending her time chasing her big brother, John, around.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The FIRST BIRTHDAY listing above was submitted before last month's deadline for this feature, but was inadvertently omitted. It is the policy of the Andover Townsman that photos and write-ups submitted after the deadline do not qualify for a free listing.

DECEMBER FIRST BIRTHDAY PHOTOS & WRITE-UPS ARE DUE FRIDAY, DEC. 23 AT NOON.

SOCIAL NOTEBOOK

The Andover Sister Towns Association Inc. will present "An English Christmas" at West Parish Church on Friday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. Featured will be a dramatized version of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

Organizers will select members for the cast on and after Wednesday, Nov. 30. To become a cast member of *A Christmas Carol*, contact Belva Hopkins at BelvaLee@comcast.net, or call 978-470-0702.

Chris Cordima, a 1999 graduate of Andover High School, will return to Andover on Tuesday, Nov. 29, at 3:30 p.m., wearing his Union Army uniform.

His knapsack filled with reproduction military gear, Cordima will recreate the average soldier's Civil War experiences. He will present on "Andover During the Civil War," for the Teachers Professional Development course on the History of Andover, currently being

offered to teachers by the Andover Historical Society and the Andover Public Schools. This particular program, which is the seventh in this ongoing series, will be open to the public and offered without charge. It will be presented at Memorial Hall Library which was built in 1873 and dedicated to the Andover men who gave their lives in the Civil War. Exhibits, portraits and flags around the second floor Memorial Room tell the story of Andover's participation in the Union cause. Attendees will also hear descriptions of those times by Andover authors Harriet Beecher Stowe and Elizabeth Stuart Phelps.

Cordima is a member of the 22nd Massachusetts Regiment and has been involved with Civil War reenactments since high school. He took part in the 140th anniversary of the Battle of the Wilderness, Gettysburg's 142th, and the anniversary of the Battle of Bull Run. A 2003 graduate of

COURTESY PHOTO

Brownie Troop 760 at Bancroft School wanted to reach out to a local group as a service project to build community awareness and a sense of sharing among the girls. They provided a classroom of students in Lowell with supplies to help them celebrate Thanksgiving both in the classroom and at home with their families. The girls loved the idea of helping other children like themselves celebrate Thanksgiving, leaders said.



Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania, with a degree in political science, Cordima worked for three years at the Gettysburg Battlefield National Military Park Library, and is presently in his final year at Roger Williams

University School of Law. During his high school and college years, Cordima worked at the Historical Society. He returns to volunteer in school programs, organizers said. Call 978-475-2236.

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Townspeople

THANKSGIVING DAY MARKS THE BEGINNING of the time of year when many people, thankful for what they have, reach out to others. With Thanksgiving upon us, the Townsman looks at some Andover residents who give of their time throughout the year, and notes ways others can also give of their time. The Dec. 8 Townsman's special section will offer additional stories. Charities interested in being listed should send one or two paragraphs about themselves and how people can help them to the Townsman by Monday, Nov. 28. Send e-mails to: jrbright@andovertownsman.com; fax it care of Judith Bright to 978-470-2819; or drop off the information at the office, at 33 Chestnut St.

The Fresh Air Fund: Generosity fosters lessons

By Courtney Fluke
WHAT'S UP contributor

FOR A CHILD LIVING IN ANDOVER, a backyard is nothing special. Grass and playgrounds are commonplace. Second thoughts are not given to riding a bike, swimming in a pool, or scarfing down a home-baked cookie.

Yet, for thousands of children in New York City, this blasé attitude is difficult to comprehend. In their neighborhoods, yards and playgrounds are usurped by cement and asphalt. Abstaining from drugs, alcohol and violence is a more relevant accomplishment than riding bikes without training wheels.

The Fresh Air Fund — and local families — seek to give urban youth a chance to experience places like Andover. Founded in 1877 by a benevolent reverend, the Fresh Air Fund was originally created to literally provide "fresh air" for poor children in New York City suffering from a severe tuberculosis epidemic. Today, the mission of this independent not-for-profit organization remains simple: to allow children in disadvantaged communities to swap urban smog with countryside cleanliness. Each child in the program, usually a minority aged 6 to 12, is paired with a host family with whom he stays for two weeks during the summer. For the first time, many of these children experience the exhilaration of nature and the host of basic activities that accompany it, from hiking and swimming to strawberry picking and sunbathing. Many children are thrilled.

Just ask Tracey Galat, an Andover resident who has hosted the same child, Ellya, for six years. She initially expected Ellya to be fascinated by elaborate activities, such as trips to museums and days spent at the beach. Yet, it was the simple activities that captivated Ellya's interest: reading and baking cookies offered more excitement than dinosaur fossils or the ocean.

"What she has gotten out of this program is spending time with and being a part of another family. It's nothing fancy and nothing special," says Galat, of Sheffield Circle.

For Myosotys, the child whom Andover resident Mary Carroll hosted, seeing a farm animal for the first time was a memorable experience. A trip to the grocery store was another adventure, from which Myosotys discovered her affinity for canned ravioli. Even the price of peanuts at a Spinner's game provoked amazement from the 10-year-old: \$3.50 seemed a shocking amount to spend on a bag of nuts.

Rather than triggering jealousy and depression, Ellya's and Myosotys's visits to Andover reinforced the tangibility of a better future.

"You hope that their experience gives them hope — that if they stay in school and get a good education that they can live like this too," says Carroll, of Bailey Road.

Ellya seems to have taken this message to heart. Despite adverse city living conditions, she is now a model student who swims for her school team and reads in her free time, says Galat.

However, it was not only Ellya and Myosotys who benefited from their fortnight in Andover. The Galats and the Carrolls also gained invaluable awareness of a lifestyle radically different from their own, they say.

Ellya educated her host family about Russian culture, language and cuisine. Myosotys, who initially laughed at her host family's Spanish, related her experiences growing up, with a father incarcerated and only a twin bed to share with her aunt and uncle.

For families with little daily exposure to racial and socioeconomic diversity, these conversations can pop the passive complacency of their lives inside the Andover bubble. Carroll says her eldest daughter even described Myosotys's stay as her "most life-changing experience," from which she realized "how other people in the world live," and gained a greater appreciation for the comforts she takes for granted.

► Any Andover family, regardless of race, sexual orientation, or class, can become involved with the Fresh Air Fund. A trip to the organization's Web site, www.freshair.org, is all it takes to connect with an inner city child. As Galat relates, no elaborate itinerary is needed: the very nature of the cross-cultural encounter is enough to impart lifelong lessons.

Season of caring

Holiday shopping benefit kicks off season



They shopped 'til they dropped! Mary Jane Bausemer of Andover (left) and Joanne Quinlan-Roberts of Methuen had their arms full of merchandise. Event proceeds benefited various programs run by Family Service Inc., including the Court Appointed Special Advocate program and the Samaritans of the Merrimack Valley.

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP was the hope, and plenty of women did just that as Family Services Inc. hosted a holiday shopping benefit night last Thursday, Nov. 17.

After paying a \$30 entry fee, about 150 shoppers perused the wares of 30 vendors at DeLuca Enterprises in Shawshen Square. Proceeds benefited various programs run by Family Services.

"The programs help community residents, including the Court Appointed Special Advocate program and the Samaritans of the Merrimack Valley," said Lori Howe, who is development director at Family Services. "Additionally, a portion of the event proceeds will go to benefit the Family Service agencies in the Gulf Coast region who were affected by Hurricane Katrina."

Shoppers clearly had the holiday spirit as they were happy to help out a good cause and also get some early-bird shopping done. Howe said about \$4,000 was raised.

"We knew a lot of women who sell distinctive items at house parties and shops around town and we thought it would be a lot of fun to bring them together for a big ladies night out," said MaryBeth Finn of Andover, a Family Service volunteer.

Event vendors included Native Sun, Ford Flowers, Giggles, Charmed by Amy, Best Dressed and Carina & Co.

► To learn more about Family Services or the programs it assists, such as how to help out, call 978-683-9505, or check out www.FamilyServiceInc.com.

— Judy Wakefield

SHARING THEIR HOLIDAY SPIRIT



As part of Sanborn School's 27th annual Harvest Festival program, fifth-grade students (from left) Jordan Maue, Bill Rand, Annie Green, Bryan Riemer and Marielle Waters, along with 60 more fifth-graders, headed out Friday, Nov. 18 to deliver about 250 holiday bags to senior friends at Andover Commons, Marland Place, Wingate, Academy Manor and to some private residences. Seniors were also invited to an assembly at the school Tuesday, Nov. 22.

Survivor enjoys her go-to status in the office

By Judy Wakefield

THE T-SHIRTS HAVE EVOLVED. And Kirsten Paragona, a local Making Strides walkathon veteran, has been happy to see the change.

"The T-shirts used to say, 'in memory of,' and now they say, 'in support of...'" And, that's what the walk is all about," said Paragona, director of corporate communications at CGI in Andover. "The money goes directly to research in support of people, not in their memory."

CGI has about 500 employees in its Andover office and provides information technology and business process technology services to various companies.

For the past 13 years, Paragona has participated in "Making Strides," an annual 5.7-mile walkathon in Boston that raises money for breast-cancer research. The most recent walk was last month.

As at many companies and in many Andover homes, the CGI office at 600 Federal St. takes steps to support cancer survivors, as more and more employees continue working in between their chemotherapy and radiation visits.

Patti Rajski, 48, who has lived in Andover for the past three years, is one of these survivors of breast cancer.

Yes, she lost her hair, wore a wig and suffered from exhaustion and nausea many days. But getting to work was important to this CGI vice president, and she appreciated the support of her co-workers. She worked in between radiation and chemotherapy treatments throughout her breast-cancer bat-

tle two years ago.

She knows of three other women in her office who have battled cancer or are currently dealing with the disease. She knows how significant support can be, and has no problem being CGI's "go-to" gal when it comes to breast-cancer questions.

"Working through it in the workplace is important to people. We need to take the stigma off of it (breast cancer)," said Rajski.

Rajski's openness did not surprise Craig Bunnell, an oncologist at Dana-Farber Institute who agreed the trend among his patients with breast cancer is to keep working and to live as normally as possible during treatments.

"Obviously, for some, they have to work. But, I also think with our current medications we can control side effects and symptoms better than we could 10 years ago and you can work. They can better manage," said Bunnell.

In fact, he is currently conducting a study on how side effects and symptoms from chemotherapy and radiation affect lives.

"That's what my breast-cancer patients want to know. They want to know how they can work, take care of their families, do the shopping, that sort of thing, during treatments. And it's an area that has not been studied much," he said.

Bunnell supports office-cooler discussions where co-workers can pose questions about cancer and treatments.

"It's such a common disease," he said. "And, if you stop working, it allows you to ruminate and that is not usually positive."

"Cancer is no longer a death sentence," said Rajski. Her brown hair has grown back, she feels good, and has energy. She believes events like the annual Making Strides walkathon are good ways to rally around co-workers who are battling cancer.

That's what CGI did last month. It fielded an 11-member walking team that raised \$11,000 for the cause. Then Rajski approached management for a matching donation. They agreed and the company made a \$22,000 donation.

"That made me feel even better," said Rajski. "Talking about cancer and treatments helps anyone going through it. Cancer touches so many people and we shouldn't be afraid to talk about it."

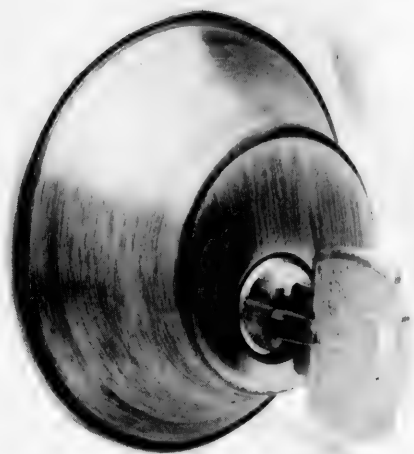
Pan-Massachusetts Challenge

Annually, Andover residents are involved in several events geared toward raising money for cancer research. Forty-nine residents from Andover and North Andover raised \$184,000 for the Pan-Massachusetts Challenge (PMC), the most successful athletic fundraising event in the nation. The funds raised by the residents were part of the \$23 million that the PMC contributed to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through its Jimmy Fund.

► People can find out how to volunteer for the PMC by visiting pmc.org, or calling (800) WE-CYCLE; and they can find out about volunteering for Dana-Farber or the Jimmy Fund by visiting volunteer.services@dfci.harvard.edu, or by calling 617-632-3307.



CGI's walking team includes, front row: Pamela Manion, John Burchill and Jean Imlach; back row: Elaine Finnigan, Lakshmi Rao, Kerry Daley, Patti Rajski, Laura Kafegellis, Kirsten Paragona, Sharon Nolan and Karen Hanna.



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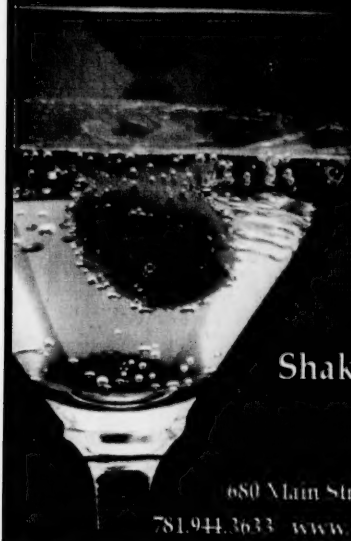
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